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COST OF THE ABYSSINIAN WAR.

SINCE the fatal day—for Conservatism, though not for mankind—when the late Sir Robert Peel seceded from its ranks, Tory statesmen have not shone as financiers. Mr. Disraeli's first Budget was hooted out of Parliament, and, with it, himself and his party from office. They have since had fuller opportunities of trying their hands at managing the financial affairs of the country, and have failed egregiously. Their best efforts at improving the fiscal system of the nation sink into insignificance beside the great work of reform in that system accomplished by Mr. Gladstone; and it seems that the Tories have not the capacity to keep things straight even when they find them so. During their last term of office they managed to increase the normal or ordinary expenditure of the country to the tune of something more than £3,000,000 sterling, without, so far as can be discovered anywhere save in their own declarations, to any appreciable degree increasing the efficiency of the public service; and as regards that important item of what may be called abnormal or extraordinary expenditure—the Abyssinian expedition—they have been still more un-

fortunate. In fact, they have been most woefully out in their calculations on that matter.

The original estimate of the cost of the expenditure to punish King Theodore, prepared while Mr. Disraeli was Chancellor of the Exchequer, if we remember rightly, was somewhere about £3,000,000. Then Mr. Ward Hunt increased it to £5,000,000, which, he said, would cover the whole cost provided the war was brought to a close by the end of May. But it now appears that Mr. Hunt was all wrong in that calculation. The war was closed, and our army had "cleared out" of Abyssinia a month before the specified time; and yet Parliament has been called upon to vote £3,600,000 more, making in all £8,600,000, for what Mr. Disraeli calculated could be done for £3,000,000. Even now we do not know that we have seen the full amount of the bill for that little job. Indeed, it is more than insinuated that if the country gets off for a final sum of £10,000,000 it may think itself lucky.

It is, we know, the tendency of public works of all sorts in this country to exceed their estimated cost; millions are such "mere fleabites" to wealthy and happy England, that

her servants like to carry out their allotted tasks "regardless of expense;" but, making due allowance for this inveterate propensity to augment the bill, and making due allowance, too, for the difficulty and uncertainty of the work to be accomplished in Abyssinia, we cannot help thinking that the process of multiplication above referred to is an instance of that system of "coming it too strong" to which even Englishmen sometimes object in monetary matters. We do not charge the Conservative Government with any dishonesty in the affair; we suppose they made the best calculations of which they were capable, and suppressed no facts of which they were themselves aware; but we do say that the result is unfortunate for their reputation as financiers, and shows that, though men may be passing honest, they may not always be "strong enough" for the place they occupy. Honesty in statesmen is a very valuable quality, but capacity is of some importance too; and in this last respect events have shown that the Conservatives are decidedly defective.

It is no use, however, to cry over spilt milk, we suppose. We have had our satisfaction out of Theodoru



"IN THE NURSERY."—(FROM A PICTURE BY MRS. CRAWFORD, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS.)

whilom Emperor of Abyssinia; we vindicated the honour of England, a thing worth making some sacrifice to accomplish; we rescued our countrymen from the clutches of the barbarian drunkard and madman—a thing also worthy of sacrifice; and we must pay the bill incurred, however much we may grin thereat. But there are one or two lessons to be learned from the whole affair: first, that we should henceforth abstain from forcing our intercourse, friendly or otherwise, upon barbarous peoples, from whom we can gain little, but by whom we may suffer much; second, that we should decline to hold ourselves, as a nation, responsible for the doings of rash consuls, greedy merchants, and headstrong missionaries, who will insist upon rushing in where sensible men, to say nothing of angels, would fear to tread, but must leave them, in future, to pursue their propaganda, be it religious or commercial, at their own risk; and, third, that the nation should, in all time coming, eschew the services of incapable, though honest, Tory financiers, who tell us flattering but delusive tales, and promise us cheap glories only to beguile us into the quagmire of almost boundless expenditure, and themselves into lasting disgrace as statesmen.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.

THE more we hear about the working of endowments, charities, benefactions, and so forth, and the more we think over the matter, the firmer becomes our conviction that institutions of that kind, as a rule, are a total mistake. The word "charity" has an agreeable sound; relieving the wants of the needy and helping the helpless is pleasant; conferring benefactions upon mankind, either contemporary or posthumous, is attractive to philanthropic minds; and yet experience shows that probably more harm than good is done by yielding to the amiable impulses that prompt indiscriminate almsgiving and the founding of charitable and educational institutions. What men ought to do for themselves, it is not good that others should do for them. Nine out of every ten street beggars are probably impostors; and charitable foundations, of whatever kind, are almost invariably abused and perverted from the purposes for which they were designed. In some cases they are totally neglected by the general public, and become snug berths for lazy and incapable functionaries; in others, they are alienated from those they were intended to benefit, and are appropriated by persons who have no real claim to their aid, because in no real need of it; in all, they pauperise the souls of men, induce them to condescend to mean acts in order to obtain unmerited advantages, and produce jealousies and quarrels about the division of the spoils. We do not say that men should never be charitable and never give of their abundance to help their needy brethren. On the contrary, we bear fully in mind what has been said as to the estimation in which a cheerful giver is held. But we do think that men should give cautiously and guard their benefactions wisely—at least, more cautiously and more wisely than has heretofore been the wont of philanthropists.

The disclosures recently made in reference to the endowed schools of the country are marked illustrations of what we mean. Taken as a whole, these schools are rich in funds, but richer still in abuses. There are in England about 3000 schools, of which 2175 are foundations, and 782 grammar schools, possessing a gross income of nearly £600,000, out of which sum no less than £340,000 is applicable to purposes of education. With such an expenditure as this it is needless to say that a vast amount of good ought to be effected; but, nevertheless, it was perfectly notorious, even before the publication of the report of the Royal Commission, that this immense sum bore very little fruit. We have from time to time pointed out instances of the misuse of the funds belonging to endowed schools; as our readers are aware, there is a bill now before Parliament the object of which is to rectify those abuses; and, as might have been expected, "vested interests" have taken alarm, and are doing what in them lies to defeat even the very mild measure introduced by Mr. W. E. Forster. Ostensibly, and perhaps in some instances really, the opposition is prompted by a fear lest well-managed schools—of which, it seems, there are a few—should be interfered with. But this fear, real or affected, is utterly groundless, as the most cursory examination of Mr. Forster's bill at once proves. Good schools have nothing to fear from its operation; and for all ample safeguards are provided. Indeed, the most prominent defects of the measure are that it attempts too little, and seeks to accomplish what it does attempt in too mild and forbearing a fashion. The bill has now been referred to a Select Committee, and may be considerably modified ere it becomes law; but that, in its present shape, it is by no means a sweeping measure may be gathered from the subjoined outline of its provisions.

It is proposed to create a Board of Commissioners, not named in the bill, who shall have power to propound schemes for the alteration of the foundation of schools, after having duly consulted the school authorities and others interested in their decision. These schemes must then be submitted to the Government, and, if approved, be finally laid before Parliament; when, in the event of not being objected to by either House within a period of forty days, they are to come into operation. The effect of this will be to secure the most careful examination of all the circumstances in each individual case, and at the same time to throw on the Government for the time being the responsibility of the particular course recommended to Parliament.

Generally speaking, it is intended, as regards all public schools, to abolish the existing practice of granting nominations by favour. They will henceforth be determined by merit, as ascertained by examination. As, however, in a competitive entrance examination being held at the public school to which admission was sought the wealthy parent would have an advantage over the poorer and more worthy recipient of public aid, it is proposed that the examinations shall take place at the elementary schools. By this means all will have a fair start; the elementary schools will have their exhibitions or studentships in the higher schools open to competition amongst those who attend them, and there will be nothing to prevent the son of a mechanic fighting his way up to the highest academical honours. Nor, as Mr. Forster pointed out, is it those alone who obtain exhibitions that will profit by them. Each exhibition will be an incentive to a considerable number to obtain a certain degree of education which without that inducement they might never have secured. The scheme, in its broad features, is undoubtedly based on sound principles; and we can only hope that in the hands of the Select Committee those principles will be respected and maintained.

"IN THE NURSERY."

WE have already devoted some space to a notice of the pictures in the gallery devoted to the works of female artists, in Conduit-street, and we now reproduce one of them as an illustration of a number of very interesting domestic subjects that may be seen in that encouraging collection. "In the Nursery" is just one of those attractive bits which gain an almost universal recognition, because it directly appeals to the best and commonest sentiments of the larger portion of the public. It is always pleasant to spend a few minutes in a picture gallery watching the rest of the company, and withdrawing one's attention entirely from the walls until the audible criticisms and homely ecstasies of some sympathetic group of connoisseurs direct you to a representation of such real life as that in our Engraving. If only for the scope likely to be given to the execution of works like this, which serve to unite art with the ordinary pleasures and duties of our daily life, the Institution of Female Artists should be supported, and its claims to a definite place among the galleries be readily and cordially recognised.

THE QUEEN AND THE IRISH CHURCH.—On Monday afternoon a deputation—comprising Sir William Carroll (the Lord Mayor of Dublin), Alderman McSwiney; Sir J. Gray, M.P.; and Dr. Ryan—presented a petition to the Queen at Windsor Castle, praying for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. Her Majesty's reply referred to the deep and anxious interest which she had always taken in the condition of Ireland, and expressed her earnest desire to promote by just and wise legislation that spirit of contentment and peace on which the welfare of the Irish people mainly depended.

A CLERGYMAN FROZEN TO DEATH.—An inquest was held at Sirbright, near Guildford, on Tuesday, on view of the body of the Rev. John Jye Wells, a retired clergyman of the Church of England, who was discovered at an early hour on Sunday morning lying on the high road, having been frozen to death. From the evidence it appeared that the unfortunate gentleman had been for some time past labouring under certain delusions, which necessitated the engagement of a keeper to look after him. On Saturday night the keeper left the room for a few minutes, and in his absence the deceased went out of the house. He was seen by a man about half an hour afterwards walking through a roadside pond. The deceased was unknown to the man, and, as he was drenched to the skin and without a hat, the man simply recommended him to go home. Although the night was dark and snow was falling heavily, the deceased appeared to have wandered about till nearly eleven o'clock, when he knocked at the door of a cottage tenanted by a labourer named Gunner, who had retired to rest. He, however, heard the knock, and asked who was there. The deceased asked to be let in "for the love of God!" stating that he was a clergyman and had lost his way. Gunner did not get up, but told the deceased to "be off!" Deceased continued knocking for half an hour; but, although he repeatedly said that he should die, Gunner made no effort to ascertain anything of the importunate man. The knocking at last ceased, and Gunner went to sleep. On going out at his door in the morning at seven o'clock, he found the deceased lying in front of it covered with snow, and stiff and cold. The medical evidence showed that the deceased had died from exposure, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—The Protestant laymen of Ireland have issued a "declaration" against the disestablishment of the Irish Church which occupies nearly two columns in the *Times* this week. It asserts, among other things, that the glebe lands and tithes which were taken from the monasteries at the Reformation were all either given or sold to laymen, in whose possession they still continue; and that the residue of the tithes "was never transferred by the State from the Roman Catholic to the Protestant Church;" but "the bishops of the Irish Church, at the time of the Reformation, adopted the reformed doctrine and services, and, with two exceptions, continued the bishops of the Irish Church after the Reformation." So that, the declaration contends, "unless the great principle of the Reformation, by which the supremacy of the Crown was substituted for the supremacy of the Pope, be denied and departed from, the bishops and incumbents now in possession of the glebe lands and the tithes rent-charge (for which the tithes were commuted) are the legitimate successors of the bishops and incumbents in whom the property of the Church was vested before the Reformation, and, as such, are the rightful possessors of that property." To seize and sequester the property and endowments of the Irish Establishment, the declaration asserts, would not only be "in direct violation of all securities for the possession of property, and shake to their very foundation all titles to land in Ireland, but would sanction principles tending to uproot the plantation of Ulster; and, instead of being in accordance with the dictates of justice, would be fraught with the greatest injustice and wrong; and, instead of promoting peace and goodwill among Roman Catholics and Protestants, would embitter strife and perpetuate animosity, both civil and religious, in every part of Ireland." The document is signed by about fifty peers, headed by the Duke of Abercorn, about seventeen members of Parliament, and by upwards of 1000 deputy lieutenants, magistrates, and other country gentlemen.

A PIGGISH DIFFICULTY.—A correspondent writes:—"There is a picture in *Punch*, March 6, representing a railway porter explaining to an old lady that the station-master says that her cats and rabbits will have to travel as dogs. I daresay that this sketch was founded on fact, for a somewhat similar circumstance happened to me. I have been a Rector many years, and have often heard and read of tithes, though I have never met with a specimen of them. Perhaps they were pre-Adamite porkers and were disendowed and disestablished before my time. But I had once a little pig given to me, which was of a choice breed, and only just able to leave his mother. I had to convey him by carriage to X station; thence, twenty-three miles, to Y station; and thence, eighty-two miles, to Z station; and from there eight miles by carriage. I had a comfortable rabbit-hutch of a box made for him, and, with a supply of fresh cabbage for his dinner on the road, I started off with my wife, children, and nurse; and of these impedimenta a piggy proved to be the most formidable. First a council of war was held over him at X station by the railway officials, who finally decided that this small porker must travel as two "dogs." Two dog-tickets were therefore procured for him, and so we journeyed to Y station. There a second council of war was held, and the officials of Y said that the officials of X (another line) might be prosecuted for charging my piggy as two dogs; but that he must travel to Z as a horse, and that he must have a huge horse-box entirely to himself for the next eighty-two miles. I declined to pay for the horse-box—they refused to let me have my pig—officials swarmed around me—the station-master advised me to pay for the horse-box, and "probably the company would return the extra charge." I scorned the probability, having no faith in the company—the train (it was a London express) was already detained ten minutes by this wrangle; and, finally, I was whirled away bereft of my pig. I felt sure that he would be forwarded by the next train, but, as that would not reach Z till a late hour in the evening, and it was Saturday, I had to tell my pig tale to the officials; and, not only so, but to go to the adjacent hotel and hire a pig-sty till the Monday, and fee a porter for seeing to the pig until I could send a cart for him on that day. Of course, the pig was sent after me by next train, and, as the charge for him was less than a halfpenny a mile, I presume he was not considered to be a horse. Yet this fact remains—and it is worth the attention of the Zoological Society, if not of railway officials—that this small porker was never recognised as a pig, but began his railway journey as two dogs, and was then changed into a horse."—*Once a Week*.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The *Journal Officiel* announces from Athens that on the 8th inst. the French transport *Jura* left the Piræus for Crete, with 1100 Candians on board. She was, moreover, to take others from Syra. During the last few weeks, according to the same paper, the Austrian Lloyd's and the French transport have conveyed more than 3000 Candians back to Crete.

ITALY.

The report of the Treasury up to Feb. 28 states that the national revenue amounted to 1,733,380,863 lire, and the expenditure to 1,605,326,101 lire, and the cash and notes in the treasury to 127,854,762 lire.

HOLLAND.

A question having arisen between France and Holland as to railways, of a similar character to that between Belgium and the former Power, in Wednesday's sitting of the Second Chamber the Minister of the Interior, in reply to a question, stated that the Government had not sanctioned any convention between Dutch and French railway companies with regard to the junction of their lines.

SPAIN.

The majority of the Cortes agreed, last Saturday, to support Senor Sagasta's motion for a vote of 25,000 men, resolving, at the same time, that the present conscription should be the last and that henceforth the army should be constituted by voluntary enlistment. A motion in favour of the establishment of civil marriage, introduced on Monday, was withdrawn, on the opposition of the Minister of Justice. On Tuesday the Cortes adopted, by 145 votes against 63, the proposal of the majority for the appointment of four permanent committees. General Prim, in reply to a question, declared that the Monarchical party were prepared with a candidate for the throne, and that his name should be made known when the proper moment should arrive. It is understood that the draught of the Constitution will propose to establish complete civil liberty and freedom of worship, but will retain the Roman Catholic faith as the religion of the State.

Disturbances have broken out and barricades have been erected at Xeres de la Frontera, between Cadiz and Seville. The communication by rail between these two cities was interrupted on Wednesday morning, and the Captain-General of Seville addressed a demand to the General in command of Cadiz for the dispatch of troops to the scene of the disturbances. Rioting has also occurred at Alcala del Valle, resulting in two persons being killed and six wounded; and an outbreak is apprehended at Paterna, near Cadiz. On Wednesday evening the Republican minority in the Cortes gave expression to their disapproval of the conduct of the rioters, and presented a resolution offering to support the Government in restoring order. The resolution was unanimously approved, 251 members voting. Marshal Serrano thanked the minority for the course they had pursued, and said that liberty was safe so long as the minority preserved their present dignified attitude. He, moreover, assured the House that order was being restored.

Celestino Olozaga, nephew of Salustiano Olozaga, and Secretary of the Cortes, has been killed in a duel arising out of no political cause. His death has caused painful sensation.

GERMANY.

The North German Parliament has adopted a motion in favour of freedom of speech in the several Diets of the Confederation. On Saturday last Herr Twisten, supported by several members of the Liberal faction of the House, moved that responsible Ministers should be established for foreign affairs, war, the navy, and commerce of the North German Confederation.

AUSTRIA.

The Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath is engaged in a debate on the bill presented by Government relative to the landwehr. The Government wish to have the landwehr under the direct control of the military authorities, while a minority of the committee to which the measure has been referred are desirous that the force shall be entirely separate from the army. On Monday the paragraph subordinating the landwehr to the regular army, as in Prussia, was adopted after some discussion.

A Ministerial decree has been published in Pesth announcing that from Aug. 1 next the united flag of Austria and Hungary is to be adopted by merchant-vessels.

THE UNITED STATES.

Some further changes have been made in the President's Cabinet. Mr. Hamilton Fish is nominated Secretary of State in place of Mr. Elihu Washburne; and Mr. George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, Secretary of the Treasury, in place of Mr. Alexander T. Stewart. Mr. Washburne has been nominated for American Minister to France, Mr. Andrew G. Curtin to Russia, and General John A. Rawlins has been nominated Secretary for War.

President Grant has appointed the celebrated Confederate commander General Longstreet to be Surveyor of Customs at New Orleans. This appointment will, no doubt, give great satisfaction to the Southerners, and be hailed as the dawn of a more liberal policy towards them.

On Tuesday a resolution was introduced in the American Senate authorising the President to recognise the independence of Cuba; and the United States squadron in the West Indies has been strongly reinforced.

General Schenck's Finance Bill, having been reintroduced into Congress and passed by both Houses, now goes to the President.

Mr. Andrew Johnson has published a long farewell address on quitting office, in which he maintains that he has been actuated by the purest motives, and that he has been right all through, and his opponents wrong.

INDIA.

The last overland mail from India brings the welcome intelligence that all serious danger of famine in the North-West Provinces has passed away.

THE FLAG-OFFICER'S GREENWICH HOSPITAL PENSION of £150 a year, rendered disposable by the death of Admiral Sir Peter Richards, K.C.B., has been awarded to Vice-Admiral Charles Frederick.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.—It has been determined to call a meeting of the shareholders of this company for Wednesday, the 24th inst., to consider Lord Granville's proposal for the transference of the Hudson's Bay territory to the dominion of Canada. Lord Granville proposes that the company shall surrender to her Majesty all their rights of government, property, &c., in Rupert Land and other parts of British North America, which will be transferred to the dominion of Canada upon Canada paying the company £300,000 in compensation for their territory and rights. It is proposed that the company shall retain their rights of trade, their stations, and blocks of land adjoining them; and they shall, moreover, be allowed to claim one twentieth of the land in every township or district within what is called the Fertile Belt, as it is set out for settlement. Nor are any exceptional taxes to be laid on the company's land, trade, or servants. It is to be hoped the shareholders will accept these terms, which are probably much more favourable than any that will ever again be proposed should these now be rejected.

CROWNER'S QUEST LAW.—An inquest, the circumstances of which are very singular, was held at Greenmore, near Penistone, last Saturday. The deceased, a man named Beaver, was riding on the shafts of a waggon, and driving it on the highway; the wheels of the cart came in contact with some large stones on the road, and the man was jerked from his seat, fell under the wheels, and was killed. It appears that the stones were placed on the road by a man named Taylor, under the direction of the road surveyors, to prevent the road from being worn out. The jury, in the first instance, found that the man's death had been caused as stated, and recommended the surveyors to mercy. The Coroner said that he could not accept such a recommendation, but the jury must find whether the deceased came by his death through not using due caution, or whether through the conduct of the surveyors. The foreman of the jury proposed to decide this point at once, but the Coroner told him he must consult his colleagues, and the jury, having retired again, brought in a verdict of "Accidental death, caused by the carelessness of the deceased." A juror afterwards remarked that they would have brought in a verdict of manslaughter, but they feared it might get the man Taylor into trouble.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT-RACE.

The luck has not turned, and Cambridge has lost again. The whole story is told in these simple words. The race was virtually over at Chiswick, and when the boats came in view from Barnes Bridge the Cantabs were beaten by at least two boats' lengths. They never gained ground afterwards. The rains of the morning—some heavy, some drizzling—had ceased, but the sky was leaden, the water muddy, and the atmosphere was like that recently described by a popular author, and might have been ploughed by anyone in want of a dirty job. Not that it obscured the view materially; but it was of that damp and heavy kind which makes bright colours out of doors anomalous, and strongly suggests the advantages of home amusements and a good coal-fire. Certain dots in the water, moving on its surface like insects, and backed by a black wall of battering-rams, each vomiting forth its quota of steam and smoke, were the first things recognised. Then a couple of white streaks stealing rapidly onwards, and in another second showing what looked like antennae in the air, were said to be the boats. A moment more, and the colour of one set of antennae was said to be darker than the other, and simultaneously with this discovery rang out the words "Oxford first." The rest is soon told. The Cambridge men looked fagged and sorry as they glided by, but pulled with a steady, regular stroke, while the Oxford crew went by easily, and in far better form than they promised a week ago. A perfect fleet of steamers puffed up immediately afterwards, three of them coming into collision under Barnes Bridge, to the outspoken satisfaction of the spectators; for they had resembled nothing so much as a floating wall, advancing to engulf the hindmost boat; and the crowd, whose sympathies were aroused, protested loudly against the unnecessary risks to which their favourite, the Cambridge boat, was exposed.

The ceremony of toasting for stations, though a trifling and common act enough in itself, was a serious matter for the combatants, and the Oxford crew won. This was a clear advantage to them, and they showed their sense of it by selecting the Middlesex side of the river. The superstitious saw in this the hand of Fate, and gave up the Cambridge men as lost; while the practical gain to the fortunate tossers had a decided effect upon the betting. The men looked well and confident as they took their seats amidst the cordial cheers of spectators, who included in their thousands Prince Arthur and the young Egyptian Prince Hassan. Mr. E. Scoble was the starter, and Mr. J. W. Clitty, of Exeter College, umpire. The race, although a terrible trial of strength, lasting as it did 20 min. 6 sec., admits of a very brief description. From the start to the finish an unbroken roar, half excitement, half applause, which came from the banks and from the craft on the river, marked the progress of the boats. For some time it was hard to say how the race would end. Oxford set off with their accustomed dash; Cambridge with a determined courage that in a few seconds brought them abreast and then ahead of their opponents. To describe with anything like faithfulness the frantic shouts of the backers of Cambridge, to depict the delight evinced, or the extraordinary ways in which the delight made itself known, would be something like presenting our readers with what would appear a pure caricature of human nature. For two miles nearly Cambridge kept the lead, but their rowing lacked the elasticity that gained for Oxford the approbation of the critical. At first Oxford rowed at thirty-six and Cambridge thirty-seven strokes the minute, but at the Duke's Head the latter were pulling at thirty-nine, if not more. Here they were a full quarter of a length ahead, and soon they stole on to one third. The Oxford boat, however, now showed signs of overhauling them, whereupon Cambridge, favoured by the Oxford boat hugging the shore too much, maintained an advance of half a length. Oxford once more threatened mischief; but Cambridge darted well through the centre arch of Hammersmith Bridge, and reappeared on the other side in their old position. Then it was that victory gradually left the Cantabs. The easy sweep of Oxford told at length in their favour, and at Chiswick Eye they got abreast, and then ahead, passing the winning-flag about two boats and a half in advance of the Cambridge boat. The Oxford crew ceased rowing, like men who could afford to rest upon their oars literally and laurels figuratively, while the beaten eight worked off their disappointment by putting distance between them and the thick of the crowd. The excitement at the finish was immense, and the crowd in the neighbourhood of the Ship at Mortlake was greater than had been witnessed for many years. Much sympathy was felt for "Pore Kembridge," as the humbler amongst the spectators pathetically described the defeated crew, and they received the usual amount of encouraging applause. Although the crews have been subjected to some unfavourable comparisons with those of former years, the race was unquestionably smart and swift; the men, especially Oxford, were unusually fresh at its close, and the Cambridge eight never more deserved to win than they did on Wednesday.

The vast block of men, women, and vehicles began to break up immediately after this, and some notion of its extent may be formed from the fact that the foot-passengers alone passed Barnes-terrace at the rate of 200 per minute for some hours, and that as late as six in the evening the main roads to town were completely impassable. But confusion is too mild a word for the condition of the river-side from an early hour in the day. The strictly practical advice that it is impossible to squeeze a quart into a pint pot was recalled by the aspect of every inch of space on the banks. Taking Barnes railway bridge as the point of view, the oldest frequenter of the race might well be astonished at the scene for hours before the start. There were the old types, but in infinitely greater profusion than ever. As early as mid-day the carriages arriving found it impossible to secure a place. The banks were doubly, and in many places trebly, lined. Superannuated omnibuses, stage coaches which belonged to the pre-railway period, nondescript vehicles which at ordinary times serve a double debt to pay, taking out coals or vegetables on week days, while carrying passengers at so much a head to Hampton Court or Epping Forest on the Sundays; light carts, and waggons innumerable were carefully drawn up in the best positions. They had arrived after dark on Tuesday and during the small hours on Wednesday, no one exactly knew how, and were now to be let at so much the roof or seat. The people driving down had no chance with such early birds, let them have started from town at what hour they would. Again, the contingents from adjacent villages, the joint-coach omnibuses and coaches, the private carriages, which had come in from the suburbs near, filled the second rank, and the Londoners who drove down, as they thought, early, found themselves a world too late for their purpose. The police were omnipresent, and "moving on" was the one word of command. Round and round from the White Hart, on the border-land between Mortlake and Barnes, where the road is hidden from the water, down to the turning opposite Chiswick, had all arriving vehicles to drive. The same faces in the same carriages were seen passing and re-passing for hours. They might do anything rather than stand still. A block in front of the river was the thing to be avoided most, and the police strenuously and successfully prevented this, until what seemed to those waiting a late hour in the day—nearly three o'clock. Many visitors left their own conveyances for seats in those safely moored in front. Many got entangled in the lanes near, and never saw so much as the surface of the river at the crucial time. The fortunate minority who contrived to "keep moving" until movement was impossible stayed where they found themselves jammed in, and saw.

As the hours of waiting rolled on the crowding became more intense. Perturbed gentlemen were to be seen seeking counsel as to the possibility of conveying ladies from distant carriages to the windows they had just hired. The Ethiopian serenaders and the neck Irish vocalists and dancers, who piled their respective trades, now under horses' hoofs, now between carriage wheels, grew more vociferous and incoherent; and every few minutes, as it seemed, thousands of fresh arrivals poured in from the trains. The bridge at Barnes, perhaps one of the best situations for seeing the race and its finish to be obtained for money, became densely full. The

five hundred legitimate occupants to which it had been limited by the railway company were supplemented by hundreds more who clambered up its ironwork, and supported themselves in the interstices of its archways at the risk of their lives. Ugly barges drew silently up at the river-side, and let out their deck room at fabulous prices. The policemen, mounted and otherwise, who had an arduous time of it throughout, pushed their way where progress seemed impossible. Strange stories were told now of the possibilities of the tide. Not a week ago portions of the roadway between Barnes and Mortlake were partly submerged, and the chances of some such catastrophe happening now were freely canvassed. But nothing more important transpired than the victory and the attendant circumstances we have described. That the great boat-race is more than ever recognised as a thorough London holiday, and that its attractions culminated on Wednesday through the convenient hour at which it was rowed, are facts beyond dispute. Sincere regrets that Cambridge had not won and cordial hopes for her success next year were the sentiments to be heard on all sides during the protracted drive home.

According to Mr. Benson's chronograph, the following was the time:—Start, 3h. 58 min. 2½ sec.; arrival, 4h. 18 min. 9 sec.

RATEABLE PROPERTY IN THE METROPOLIS.

UNDER Mr. Goschen's bill, which has been printed, a Valuation Board for the metropolis will be elected in October, 1869, and in every year preceding the making a new valuation list; the bill extending to all unions and parishes wholly or for the greater part in value situated within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board of Works. The Valuation Board is to consist of one representative of each assessment committee of the metropolis, elected by such assessment committee out of their own body; and where there is in a parish not included in any union no assessment committee such committee is to be forthwith elected, or the assessment committee of an adjoining union is to act. The Valuation Board is to determine the percentage or rate of deductions to be made from the gross value in calculating the rateable value of hereditaments. By "gross value" is meant the annual rent to be reasonably expected, the tenant paying all usual tenants' rates and taxes and tithe commutation rent-charge, and the landlord bearing the cost of repairs and insurance and any other expenses necessary to maintain the hereditament in a state to command that rent; and "rateable value" means the gross value after deducting therefrom the probable annual average cost of repairs, insurance, and other expenses, as just stated. The Valuation Board are to draw up a table showing the percentage of deductions to be made from the gross value in order to determine the rateable value. This rate of deduction is not to exceed the following maximum:—25 per cent in the case of houses without land other than gardens, where the gross value is under £20, and 15 per cent where the gross value is £20 or upwards; 10 per cent in the case of land with buildings not houses, and 5 per cent in the case of land without buildings; 33½ per cent for mills and manufactories; on the rent-charge the cost of collection, the other outgoings being deducted in calculating the gross value; the percentage of deduction for other rateable hereditaments is to be determined by the committee. The maximum rate of deductions may be exceeded where it is insufficient to include extraordinary expenditure for maintaining embankments against encroachment of water. The gross value of a house, if occupied by one weekly tenant, is to be estimated by the rent which a yearly tenant would pay; and if let to several weekly tenants, by the rent which a tenant would give who would underlet to such occupiers, but such gross value is not to be less than 80 per cent of what would be the aggregate weekly rents, supposing the house always full. The valuation lists are not to include any hereditaments (except tithes) which are charged according to rule No. 2 in section 60 of the Income-Tax Act. The valuation lists of parishes are to be made in accordance with these rules, and provision is made for the hearing of objections made by persons aggrieved, or by a surveyor of taxes. A statement of the totals of gross and rateable values of all the valuation lists is to be sent to the overseers of every parish in the metropolis. Appeals are to be heard by a commissioner or commissioners, to be appointed by the Poor-Law Board, the expenses of the tribunal to be paid jointly by the Treasury and the metropolitan common poor fund, the costs of appeal to be in the commissioner's discretion. Any ratepayer or a surveyor of taxes may appeal against the decision of an assessment committee. Assessment committees, overseers, or ratepayers may appeal on the ground of the rateable value of any parish being too high or too low. The valuation when finally settled is to last for three years, subject to alteration by a supplemental list, if necessary, for changes occurring in the first or second year. The valuation list is to be conclusive for county rate, poor rate, &c., including all rates made on the basis of value; for the house tax and income tax; for determining qualifications of jurors and guardians, and under the Acts relating to the sale of excisable liquors. After three years the overseers are to make new valuation lists.

THE BERWICK GUARDIANS have just put forth a characteristic advertisement. They happen to be in want of a medical officer and a workhouse porter. To the former they offer £25 a year, out of which he will be required to pay for all medicines, except cod-liver oil. Candidates are expected to attend before the guardians on the day of election, at their own cost. The porter is to have £20 a year, with board and lodging.

SACRILEGE AT DEPTFORD.—On Monday morning a daring act of sacrilege was found to have been committed during the night at the Church of St. Nicholas, Deptford. After the administration of the sacrament on Sunday the silver plate was deposited in an iron safe under the vestry, and an entry was found to have been effected by the window leading to the vestry-room, the iron safe being forced open and the silver plate abstracted, the thieves getting clear off with their booty. Before leaving the sacred edifice they miscondemned themselves in a disgraceful manner.

INSECURITY OF SECURITIES.—By a decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, given on the 19th ult., it appears that bankers are not answerable for such securities as debentures left in their care. Mr. Richard Lewis had left in the care of his bankers debentures to the value of £10,450, which were stolen by one of the bank clerks; and it is now shown to be the law of the land that bankers are not liable for the safe custody of such documents, unless through the grossest negligence; and that the public are consequently at the mercy of any clerk on a pittance of a salary who may be in the banker's employment, and, having a taste for the extravagant living of the period, may be reduced into an ultimate indistinct appreciation of the difference between mium and tum. Moreover, documents duly secured in apparently safe boxes are deposited with bankers and left there for years, from which, under the present state of the law, there is no security that the most valuable documents may not be abstracted, and years before such frauds may be discovered, and, consequently, detection of the criminal nearly impossible. It therefore appears essential that the public at large should take care of their own securities—a step to which they are now driven.—*Builder*.

INTERCOMMUNICATION BETWEEN PASSENGERS AND GUARDS.—On Monday a number of gentlemen interested in railway working were conveyed to Epsom and back by special train of the Brighton Company's carriages fitted with the system of intercommunication that has been invented by Major Wethered, of the 10th Depot Battalion now stationed at Shorncliffe Camp. The Major's system is an improvement upon the ordinary mode of communicating a signal by a passenger to the guard and driver by pulling a cord. In the system of Mr. Harrison, of the North-Eastern Company, the cord is extended along the outside of the carriages above the doors, and the difficulty of getting to the cord has been stated as an objection. In Major Wethered's system the communication is by a rod under each carriage, which works upon a roller, the rod between one carriage and another being connected by a coupling-chain. The access to the apparatus by passengers is overhead, in the centre of the carriage, and being pulled, releases a detent in the guard's-van, which allows a weighted lever to drop and pull up the slack of a chain which communicates with the engine-whistle. The act of pulling the handle in the passenger-carriage also throws on a disc at the side of the compartment from which the signal has been given. In the numerous tests applied the lever fell readily in the guard's-van, the engine-whistle screaming wildly an instant after the release of the detent. The experiments were considered highly satisfactory. The cost of fitting carriages upon this mode will be much smaller than upon any of the electrical systems in use.

THE TRADES UNION COMMISSION.

THE report of the Royal Commission on Trades Unions has been presented to the House of Commons.

Sir J. Erle, Lord Elcho, Sir D. Gooch, Mr. Merivale, Mr. Booth, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Matthews recommend the relaxation of existing laws against combinations, except as to offences and damages. Further, they recommend that it should be unlawful to combine to refuse to work with particular persons; the appointment of a public prosecutor for trade offences; the registration of unions recommended; objectionable rules to be prohibited which limit the number of apprentices and prevent the introduction of machinery, or of sub-contracts, or which give support by one union to men on strike in another; trade and benefit funds to have separate accounts; accounts to be published. The Commissioners are of opinion that unions have not raised wages, or that strikes are the creation of unions. The report draws attention to co-operative and industrial partnerships, such as Briggs's. For the settlement of disputes, they recommend arbitration and boards of conciliation, as at Nottingham, but they must be voluntary. Co-operation is not regarded as a sufficient remedy for the evils of unions, nor likely to be generally adopted. Boards of conciliation are a more promising remedy, as sketched by Mr. Mundella and Mr. Hollins. They are simple, represent masters and men, and promote friendly relations between capital and labour.

Dissent No. 1, signed by Lord Elcho, who considers that the relaxation in favour of the right of combination which the report recommended ought in no case to be made dependent on questions of contract, as contracts of service are amply protected by the amended law of master and servant.

Dissent No. 2, signed by Lord Elcho and Mr. Merivale, to the prohibition against proviso as to refusal to work with particular persons, because it merely recommends that no such combination should be unlawful "by reason only that its operation would be in restraint of trade." They think the clause liable to misinterpretation. They also dissent from the recommendation that one union should not assist another in case of strike. This will give no check to the practice, and will prevent unions registering.

Dissent No. 3, signed by Lord Lichfield, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Harrison, recommends the removal of special legislation as to employment of labour, and to punish offences under the criminal law; to allow persons to combine as to whom they will work with or for, and on such points as wages, hours, and all terms, no such combination to be penal unless it has a criminal object or uses criminal means. Existing laws, which punish offences against person and property, not to be altered; combination for mutual support and assistance and subscriptions to funds to be acknowledged, with rules and penalties on members who voluntarily combine, provided nothing contrary to existing law, or causing offences against person or property; lawful associations to have the benefit of the Friendly Societies Act, with power of appointing trustees, and remedy against fraud; the agent of such associations to furnish copies of rules, bye-laws, &c., to registrar, with the receipts and expenditure; the registrar to have power to inspect books, and to give annual certificate to such society, with power to refuse if they commit unlawful offences. Inexpedient to give additional legislative character to courts of conciliation or arbitration, but expedient to give facilities in all cases when a code of rules exists under mutual agreement for the enforcement of the agreement against either party who has bona fide accepted it.

Mr. Hughes and Mr. Harrison sign a dissent, which they term "conclusions from evidence," in which they refer to the great extent and increase of unionism; improved character of unions of late years; Sheffield and Manchester inquiries disclose atrocious crimes, happily exceptions to general character of unions; high character of principal unions, such as Amalgamated Society of Engineers; well-established societies rather diminish frequency and disorder of strikes; discuss piecework (practice various), and equalisation of wages (a practice not extensively prevailing throughout the country); very qualified uniformity of rate a favour to the working classes and to the industrial system as a whole; production not limited by good unions; rules as to apprentices varied; impolitic for State to prohibit; little resistance to machinery; generally think unions beneficial; incidental advantages of unions, sick funds, &c.; trades unions are insurance societies; difficult to estimate the effect of unions on foreign trade, sometimes mischievous; masters' associations open to the same objections as those of men. The propositions made are:—1, Certificate under Friendly Societies Acts annually renewable, and trustees, and further remedies against fraud and embezzlement; 2, Deposit of rules; 3, Accounts of receipts and expenditure to be rendered; 4, No power of registrar to object to anything not criminal; 5, Union to be capable of suing and recovering at law contributions, arrears, and fines against its own members; 6, Union not to be capable of being sued or dissolved; 7, Appeal from registrar to superior courts; 8, Not expedient to change position of trades unions as clubs of purely voluntary associations, but trusted their property on condition of their giving publicity to their administration; 9, Inexpedient not to give legislative character to courts of conciliation or arbitration, but give facilities for them, and for enforcing the agreements made under them.

SOME RELICS OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, bequeathed to her Majesty by the late Lord Belhaven, have just been forwarded to Windsor Castle. They consist of an ebony cabinet, richly ornamented in front with designs in tortoiseshell, standing about 4 ft. in height, brought by Queen Mary from France; a purse, the work of Queen Mary's own hands; and a piece of unleavened bread, in a neat box, to which no authentic history is attached, but it is traditionally understood to have been a fragment of what Queen Mary had used when receiving the sacrament of the Eucharist. There is also a lock of Mary's hair.

SHOCKING AND FATAL COLLISION IN THE NORTH SEA.—Intelligence has been received of a very serious collision having taken place in the North Sea, a few miles from Winterton, off the Norfolk coast, whereby the fishing-carrier cutter Silver Cloud, of Yarmouth, was run down and her crew of seven persons were drowned. The Silver Cloud was on her way from the fishing-grounds with several hundred pads of fish from the smacks for Yarmouth when, early on the morning of the 13th, she came in collision with a screw-steamer—supposed to be the Earl of Durham—bound to the north from London, and immediately sunk, carrying with her the whole of her unfortunate crew. On the following morning the wreck of the cutter was discovered near the edge of Hasborough Sands. Several packages of fish were picked up, which led to the identity of the ill-fated vessel. The steamer, which sustained damage, on arriving at the north, reported having passed over a smack, and it is stated that the collision and the foundering of the vessel were so sudden that there was no chance of saving the crew.

PROGRESS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

THE annual Parliamentary breakfast in connection with the cause of religious liberty, took place on Tuesday, at the City Terminus Hotel. The chair was taken by Mr. C. Reed, M.P., and the attendance was unusually large, including Mr. E. Miall, M.P.; Mr. Illingworth, M.P.; Mr. H. Richard, M.P.; Mr. Gourelly, M.P.; Mr. Candlish, M.P.; Mr. M'Laren, M.P.; the Hon. Auberon Herbert, Sir John Gray, M.P.; the Hon. Mr. Brodick; Mr. Macfie, M.P.; Mr. Shaw, M.P.; Sir George Young, the Rev. Thos. Binney, &c. As explained by the chairman, who welcomed the company, the hosts were the Dissenting Deputies of the Three Denominations. Although, therefore, the meeting differed upon many points, all present being not even Nonconformists, they were unanimous in an earnest attachment to the progress of religious liberty, in the cause of which some of the guests had experienced great victories or defeats during the late general election. Speaking in the name of such a gathering, the hon. member claimed the Government as one in which they had confidence—as one in which they had friends. Briefly sketching the clearing out of the way of the Reform question, he congratulated his hearers that, at last, the greatest of the ecclesiastical questions they had so long considered was fairly before Parliament. After thirty years of hard battle, the church-rates question was disposed of with

alacrity by the House of Commons, and with an alacrity that might be described as wonderful by the House of Lords; and now came the Irish Church question, upon which the country had pronounced a most decided opinion. He referred, amidst hearty cheering, to the return of Mr. Miall to the House of Commons; and, after glancing at other Parliamentary questions in which the meeting was interested, the chairman intimated that the Conference was open to any speaker, although set speeches were not expected. Acting upon this hint, opinions were expressed upon various subjects. Mr. H. Richard, M.P., touched upon the Irish Church question, and, venturing to speak on behalf of Nonconformists generally, described Mr. Gladstone's plan as bold, honest, and thorough, and the Premier himself as a man who in this matter had nobly and loyally redeemed the pledges he gave to the country. The speaker fancied that the twelve cathedrals which were to be handed over to the Episcopalians, seeing that they were to be supported out of public money, ought to be retained as national monuments. Following up the same topic, Mr. M'Laren, M.P., urged unanimity in supporting the measure before the House, remarking that, although the "bribery all round" which was had recourse to might breed a little fault-finding here and there, ultimately the dexterous way in which "compensation" had been dealt out would produce general harmony. The English liberationists were congratulated by Mr. Crum-Ewing, M.P., upon having not only imitated but outstripped their Scotch brethren; and Sir John Gray, M.P., thanked the English Liberals, in the name of his fellow-countrymen, for the generous and cordial aid they had given towards getting rid of one of the greatest encumbrances that had ever hindered a free people. The hon. gentleman said Ireland was pleased with the scheme before Parliament; and if they thought the parties disestablished and disendowed had been dealt with somewhat too generously—they felt also they could afford just now to be generous, and to do all they could to break the fall of the doomed "interests." Three excellent speeches were made on the Universities Tests Bill by Sir George Young, the Hon. G. Brodrick, and the Hon. Auberon Herbert. The first two gentlemen acknowledged great deficiencies in the bill, but recommended that it should be accepted as an instalment; Mr. Herbert hoped it would be rejected, because then, as in the case of reform and church rates, we were more likely to obtain that comprehensive revision of the whole University system which the progress of the age demanded. The Burials Bill was recommended by Mr. Candlish, M.P., and the general principle of the Endowed Schools Bill by the Rev. P. W. Clayden, who, believing that our endowed schools ought to be the avenues to our Universities, urged they would better answer the desired purpose if the bill he mentioned became law. A cordial vote of thanks was given to the chairman at the close of the meeting, and in acknowledging it the hon. member warned the audience against two dangers—compromise and ungrounded confidence.

FREE WINTER QUARTERS.

PERHAPS by the time that men begin to find out how closely their interests are associated with the well-being of those of the animal creation which remain in our woods and fields, they will begin to recognise some sort of duty in the kindly treatment of birds and beasts. The destruction of the small feathered tribes, carried on under the auspices of sparrow clubs, was the result of

sheer ignorance; and the continued operation of such societies is due to sheer stupidity, which, if it cannot be taught, will have to be dealt with by law before we arrive at the time when we shall be compelled to import birds to supply the necessary protection of our crops from destructive insects. To those who have only been accustomed to keeping pet birds in cages, too, we would suggest a pleasure which will amply repay the very small trouble required to secure it—the pleasure, that is to say, of making pets of free birds in the pretty German fashion. Anyone living a little way in the country may soon gain the confidence of the pretty winged creatures by providing them with free winter quarters. A little rustic frame projecting from some window in the warmest aspect of the house; a few crumbs and ears of grain and warm, tasty seeds scattered on it every morning, will tempt a whole horde of shy flutterers, who grow bold at last, and pipe their thanks close to your hand, or perch about you as you stand watching them, and answer your friendly chirrup of welcome with what

almost seems an appreciative look in their bright, round eyes. There can be no more gentle or more interesting way for children to keep birdies than this; and, though some birds bred in cages and unable to endure the wintry rigour of our climate hang contentedly and happily enough in a good, large, wire mansion or palace of mahogany and wicker, the free birds languish for wider flights, and some of them lose much of their beauty, even when they have learned to live altogether in their smaller home and sing in answer to the voices that they know. It is scarcely seasonable just now to talk about Christmas, though we are in our late mid-winter; but summer or winter the little choristers may be made welcome to our windows; and there is no prettier Christmas-tree than that whose glittering boughs is filled with red-breasted robins and other bright-eyed birds waiting for the tiny gifts that we have taught them to expect from our hands.

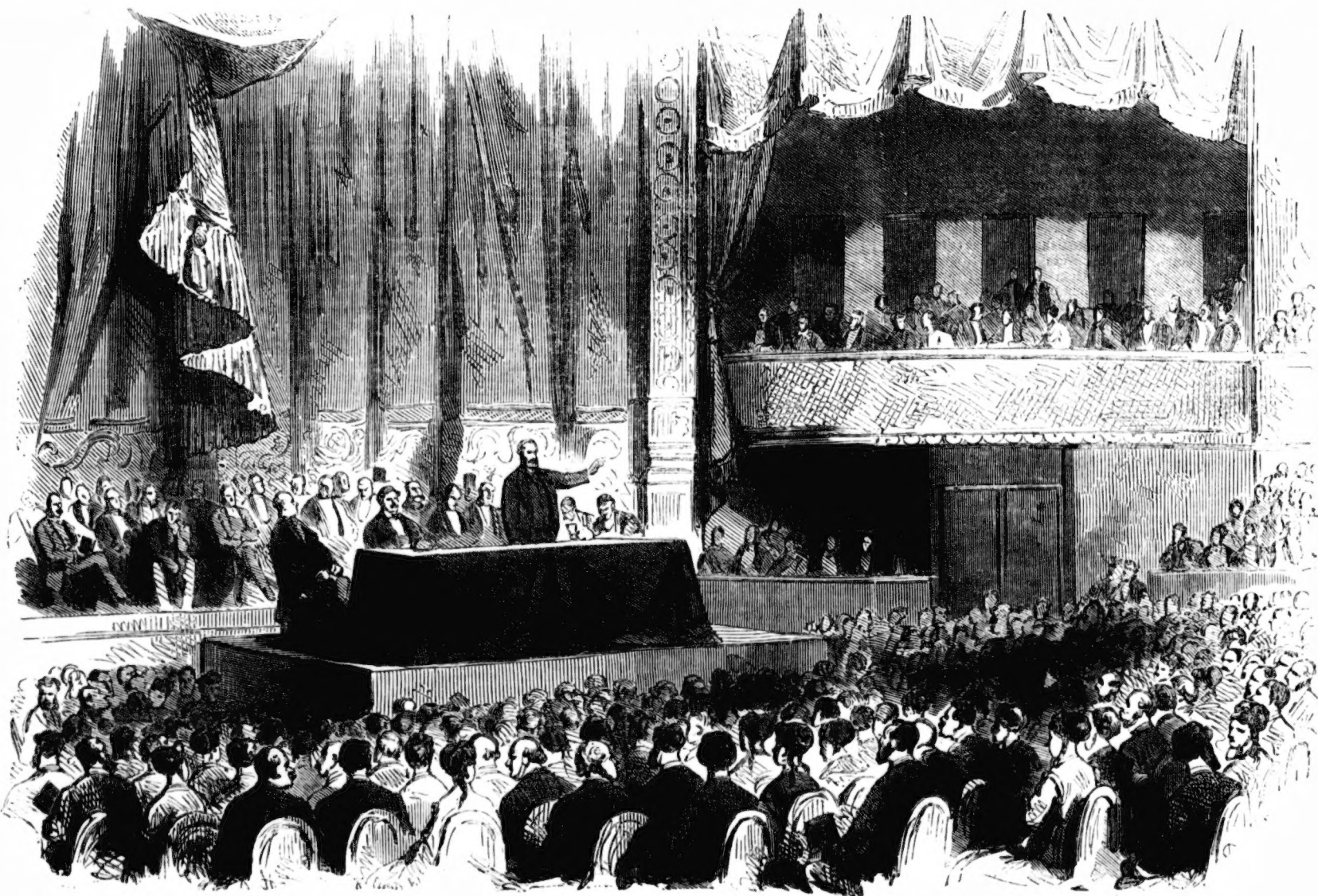
PUBLIC MEETINGS IN PARIS.

THERE is going on in France a movement of which it is difficult to see the end. In spite of the efforts of the Government to control and even to prevent public meetings, occasions are constantly arising for the holding of assemblies where speeches more or less dangerous are made, and allusions not by any means satisfactory to the authorities are frequently indulged in. These assemblies are daily becoming more numerous and more violent; and at one of them, at the end of a very strong speech, the orator exclaimed, "Vive la République!" and then dissolved the meeting before the Commissary of Police had time to do so. It is said, too, that several speakers had been loud in praise of the leaders of the old Revolution. At Belleville there was another violent assembly, where the orator declared that society was in leading strings; that the people was the only sovereign, and could not delegate its power, for it must always be able to say to its representative, if he does not please it, "Go!" At a meeting of workmen in the Passage Raoul, one of the speakers, it is said, called upon the people to band themselves together to cure the hideous wound which is now consuming them. At a public meeting of Democrats, held at the residence of M. Budaille, at the Barrière du Trône, the host opened the proceedings wearing a red cap of liberty. An individual named Briosne asked M. Jules Simon, who was present, if he were a Socialist. "Yes," replied M. Jules Simon, "I am a Socialist Democrat." Amongst other declarations made on the occasion by the hon. deputy was the following:—"Give me your co-operation to overturn the established Government, and I promise you afterwards a new fixation of property and the organisation of labour. Be revolutionists with me, and I will be Socialist with you."

Our Illustration, however, represents a different kind of assembly, where the rights of meeting are made available for really useful purposes. We have already given some account of the assemblies of the clubs, or discussion societies, which are permitted by law; and these have now become more organised, so that the confusion of their first association has been remedied, and the debates are carried on in a more orderly and instructive manner. Our Engraving is from a sketch of the assembly in the saloon of the Théâtre du Prince Imperial, where M. Eugene Pelletan addressed a select and attentive audience on that very important subject, the rights and present condition of women. The harangue was warmly applauded, and it was evident that a keen interest is being aroused in questions which will lead to larger manifestations of public spirit.



FREE WINTER QUARTERS: THE LITTLE BIRDS AT THE WINDOW.



A PUBLIC MEETING IN PARIS.

respect, indeed, be more influential than in checking corruption. Finally, he moved an instruction to the Select Committee on the present modes of conducting elections, to take into consideration the various methods of taking votes by ballot now in use in the colonies and other countries, together with any modifications thereof which might be suggested, and to report upon the most efficient and convenient system of balloting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. HARCOURT. Sir G. GREY, whilst acknowledging the evils which were attendant upon the present electoral system, said that an expression by the House in favour of the proposed instruction might have the effect of prejudging the questions which were about to be referred to a Select Committee. In appointing that Committee the House ought to give it its perfect confidence, and not to fetter its discretion; and as one of the persons nominated to serve on the Committee he desired to enter upon the inquiry without any foregone conclusion. He hoped, therefore, that the motion would not be pressed to a division.

Lord C. HAMILTON also insisted upon the Select Committee going into the inquiry unfettered by any instruction of the sort. The fact was that the disciples of secret voting did not want to put down crime, but to guard against its detection, and for that reason he would never give his assent to the ballot.

Sir H. BULWER recommended that, as it would be the duty of the Committee to inquire concerning the question of taking votes by ballot, the instruction should be withdrawn, and the resolution put as a simple declaration in favour of the ballot.

Mr. GLADSTONE observed that there was not a man on the Liberal side of the House, or if there were he was not the man, who could question for one moment that they were absolutely bound to give every facility to the voter for the discharge of his duty by taking away all impediments to its discharge, and securing for him the means by which he might record the suffrage with perfect freedom. But in reference to the proposed instruction, the terms in which the Committee had been appointed required it to conduct its investigation with the view of providing further guarantees for the tranquillity, purity, and freedom of election, and it was not possible to adopt words more comprehensive than these. The phrase "purity and freedom" obviously made it the duty of the Committee to inquire concerning the best means of preventing bribery and intimidation at elections. This being so, the mover would exercise a wise discretion in accepting the advice of Sir H. Bulwer, a veteran friend of secret voting, and not ask the House to entangle the Committee with an instruction, but leave it to act freely, in the full confidence of its performing its task to the satisfaction of the House.

Mr. LEATHAM, expressing himself satisfied with the assurance of the Premier, withdrew his motion.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A new writ was ordered for the election of a member for Dumfriesshire, in the room of Alderman Sir Sydney Waterlow, reported by a Select Committee to be disqualified.

Some discussion arose on the two bills of Mr. Norwood relating to the county courts and the proposal to invest those tribunals with Admiralty jurisdiction; but eventually both bills were postponed.

The second reading of Mr. Monk's Revenue Officers' Bill, the object of which was to relieve this class of public servants, enfranchised by the Act of last year, from the only remaining political disability under which they lie, that of not being allowed to propose, second, or canvass for candidates at Parliamentary elections, was opposed by Mr. Pease, supported by the Government, and, after a discussion, was rejected on a division by 207 to 88 votes.

On the motion of Mr. HODGKINSON, it was agreed that it be an instruction to the Select Committee on registration of Parliamentary voters in boroughs to inquire into the law affecting the registration of voters at municipal elections, and the expediency of having one register for both purposes.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE LATE MURDERS IN IRELAND.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked whether the Government would communicate to Parliament any reports from magistrates concerning the causes of the late murders in Ireland. These assassinations and outrages that had taken place proved that the state of Ireland was far from satisfactory.

Lord DUFFERIN admitted that everyone concerned in Ireland must feel very humiliated through these murders. But with regard to the information sought for, it would be extremely inconvenient to publish it, because it contained the names of ten persons suspected of being implicated, but against whom there was no sufficient evidence to prove the charge.

After some further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Irish Church Bill, a large number of petitions were presented against the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church.

Mr. DISRAELI rose at ten minutes after five (amid loud cheers from the Opposition) to move that the bill be read the second time that day six months. He quite agreed with the right hon. gentleman when he said that the measure introduced by the right hon. gentleman was one of the most gigantic measures ever brought forward in Parliament. It appeared to him a question that demanded much self-control and mutual forbearance. The decision of the House of Commons more than 200 years ago on a gigantic question was followed by a civil war, and that period was followed, too, by a period of what he might call violent tranquillity, and it left the people dissatisfied and irritable. He could not help feeling that what had passed in the time of their predecessors should be to them a lesson. The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone) proposed to accomplish two objects: one was to sever the Church from the State, which, for convenience of debate, he would call disestablishment; the other was to deprive the Church of its privileges, which, for convenience of debate, he would call disendowment. It seemed to him that it would tend to the satisfaction of the debate to know what was really the meaning of those two words. He was in favour of the union of Church and State, which was, he might say, an arrangement which renders the State religious, and invests authority with the highest sanction. It also renders the Church, speaking in the highest term, political, and it blends civil authority with ecclesiastical influence. The first question that arose was, were they quite certain that in making the severance they were not establishing in the country a power greater than the acknowledged Government itself? He knew how difficult it was to touch upon a religious subject in such a mixed assembly as that he was now addressing. The right hon. gentleman then expressed a hope that the religious topics would be discussed during this debate in a feeling of charity, and trusted that if any rhetorical misapprehensions were to escape his lips hon. members on both sides of the House would believe that such sentences were uttered without the slightest intention of wounding the feelings of any hon. member whatever religious creed he professed. When they were asked to effect a great change, such as the present, it was absolutely necessary that they should consider whether there was not a possibility of establishing two powers, one purely political and one religious. The right hon. gentleman then referred to the difference between the views of a question from the political and religious sides. It appeared to him that because they had an established Church they had enjoyed religious protection and toleration. A Roman Catholic might be excommunicated, and a sectarian might be expelled from his congregation; but he was not a forlorn being. If they wanted to destroy all religious freedom and toleration, he believed they could not have a more complete method of destroying them than by the present suggested method. Speaking of the question of disendowment, the right hon. gentleman said he was not there to uphold that there was no difference between corporate and private property. He laid this down as a principle, that under no circumstances whatever could a fiduciary trustee appropriate to himself the property of which he was the fiduciary. The reasons why he opposed the confiscation of the property of corporate bodies were, in the first place, whatever may be their origin, whether the gift of the nation—which it very seldom was—or the gift of individuals—which it nearly always was—one thing was clear, that it was, in its uses and purposes, the property of the nation, though not of the State; the second reason was, because he found that no great act of confiscation had ever been carried without the most injurious consequences—it had either led to a civil war or it had established something worse; another reason was, because he invariably observed that, when Church property had been confiscated, it always went to the proprietors of land. Coming to the question of the effects of the bill in Ireland, the right hon. gentleman said the majority of the Irish people were disorderly and discontented. He believed that from palpable causes the Irish Government was not a strong Government, and that the opinion was unanimous in that House that the present measure would not of itself be sufficient to pacify the people of Ireland. The question of the land would require a settlement. Whatever might happen, there was one dogma in which the three Churches would always agree—that, whether they were disendowed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth or in that of Queen Victoria, they would consider that they had been equally ill-treated, and that they ought to join together on the subject of the land. The tenure of Irish property was a secure and satisfactory one. What was the reason, then, that it was to be deprived of its property? The only reason he had heard was that the Irish Church as endowed hurt the feelings of the Roman Catholic clergy. This was the most unfortunate reason that a Minister could give for an unparalleled act of spoliation. It was a new principle applied to Church property that might be applied to private property to-morrow. It might be applied to the property of Irish gentlemen with the same reason as to the property of the Irish

Church. If Mr. Gladstone's principles were adopted in Ireland, would it be possible to prevent them being applied to England? Disendowment might be carried to any extent by a Minister who had a large majority in that House. Mr. Gladstone had resolved to plunder and confiscate the property of the Irish Church, and he could only do so by asking the Irish Church to co-operate with him. He thought Mr. Gladstone, at the same time, ought to have done something to soothe their feelings and to protect their interests. But instead of doing so he had produced four propositions, which were contradictory and unsatisfactory. Having referred to the propositions and pointed out their injurious working against the vested interests of the Irish Church, he asserted that the six millions surplus would in the end be confiscated also. The ingenuity of Mr. Gladstone in devising a scheme of confiscation, and then asking the co-operation of the parties he was going to rob, was worthy the admiration of the British Parliament. Then with respect to Maynooth, was the way that college was to be subsidised calculated to propitiate the Irish Church; or, indeed, was it quite in conformity with the alleged principle of the bill? On this matter Mr. Gladstone owed an explanation to Parliament; for Mr. Gladstone had emphatically declared on the hustings that, if the Irish Church was to be plundered, none of its property was to be given to Roman Catholic or imperial purposes; while the preamble of the bill actually set forth that no part of Irish Church property was to be applied to the "teaching of religion." The general result of the Protestant Church of Ireland, if this bill were carried, would in a few years be this—that you would see the Protestant Church without a shilling of endowment and a richly-endowed Roman Catholic Church. Was this a contingency to be desired for the interest of the empire or even for Ireland? If this bill were carried, even in a modified form, the effect would be that the Church property would go to the landlords of Ireland. When the great crisis takes place—the crisis of the land question—they would find that the landlords would have something to do with settling it, and a dilemma would arise not immediately contemplated. Then, again, the proposal to deal with the surplus was uncalled for and absurd. He would for a moment assume that the Irish Church would co-operate with Mr. Gladstone to carry out the bill. What would be the condition of the Church? There would be 700,000 Protestants scattered over a large surface who would be called upon to accomplish a new ecclesiastical power; and this was to be done in a few months, and this, too, after treating their rights and faith with contumely and insult. It had been said that the curse of Ireland was its non-resident gentry, and its poverty; here was an Act to expatriate one and to destroy the other. The conclusion was inevitable that, ultimately, the principle applied to Ireland would have to be applied to England. Hon. gentlemen in that House, no doubt, would not object to such an issue; but he could never approve of it. He inferred from Mr. Gladstone's own words that he had already contemplated such a consequence. England could not afford another revolution, which for 200 years had given her a great start in wealth and stability. Through that revolution we had accomplished complete personal and religious liberty, combining it with order and annexing religion to the State. This great result had been attained by the combined action of the two great political parties in the country. Each had its faults and made its mistakes, but each had done its part to secure true political and religious liberty—in particular religious liberty—in connection with the State. He believed the basis of the measure was most dangerous to the interests of the country, and he therefore left the result with confidence to the consideration of that House and the decision of the country.

Mr. GREGORY thought the measure would have been more acceptable had the Church property been divided rateably among the different religious denominations in Ireland.

Sir G. JENKINSON said the proposition of the Government was unjust in principle and erroneous in policy. It would light up the flames of religious animosity in Ireland, and lead to incessant turmoil and renewed discord among all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in that country.

The debate was continued by Mr. E. Bowring, Mr. Broderick, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. A. Cross.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE said that it was no longer possible to maintain a State Church in Ireland, and the wonder was that it should have been maintained so long; but it had only been maintained by a want of knowledge and a want of sympathy in the people of this country. No internal reforms would now be sufficient to satisfy the people of Ireland, and no considerable portion of the people of this country were in favour of general endowments. A great deal had been said of confiscation; but he contended that they had the right to deal with endowments which 300 years ago had been diverted from their original owners. That was spoliation. They did not propose to restore them to those owners, but to appropriate them in a manner that would be more beneficial to the country.

The debate was soon afterwards adjourned until to-morrow (Friday).

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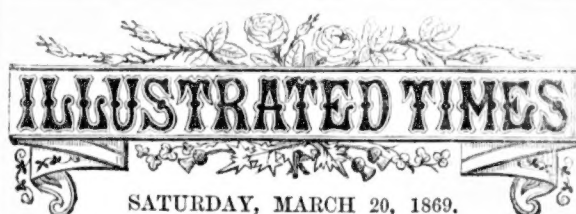
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SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1869.

UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS' OATHS.

ONE of Sir Roundell Palmer's amendments to the University Tests Bill is a curious instance of the manner in which able men in a given line commit themselves to absurdities for want of a little special knowledge or special intelligence. Amendment B runs briefly thus:—"Every person hereafter to be elected or appointed to any professorship in the Universities, or to the office of tutor or lecturer in any college, shall, before he shall be capable of entering upon the duties of his office, make the declaration following:—'I, A. B., do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will never endeavour, directly or indirectly, to teach or inculcate any opinion opposed to the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, or to the doctrine or discipline of the Church of England as by law established.'" Now, what a professor is bound to "endeavour" to do, and what, by the natural pressure of his own feelings, he will "endeavour" to do, is to teach his own particular science as well as he possibly can. Sir Roundell Palmer has heard whispers of "Comtism" in the Universities, but he evidently does not know much about it, or he would never have proposed this pledge. Let us look at facts. Locke was a religious man, and wrote some well-known religious books, yet he was often denounced as an infidel. Why? Because it was contended that the inevitable consequence of Lockeism was the rejection of the belief in anything more than "matter." Now, in our own day, in every department of science, the Comtist or Positivist method is dominant. That method excludes reference to final causes. Pushed as far as it will go, it is steadfastly maintained by religious men in general that this involves Atheism; if not in the sense of denying a God, yet in the

sense of disclaiming all knowledge of one. And it will take more than the ingenuity of Sir Roundell Palmer to explain how a scientific man can urge upon his class, or upon his pupils, positive methods of thought without at the same time "indirectly" violating the spirit of the proposed pledge. The most devoted friend of Religion cannot, with his eyes open, desire to see any such absurdity committed as the enactment of this idle precaution. Religion is safe; it can dispense with even the aid of Sir Roundell Palmer; and a declaration like this is quite as unnecessary as a pledge not to try to pull down the moon.

TRADES UNIONS.

THE report of the Trades Unions Commission, which has just been laid on the table of the House of Commons, is a very curious document. Speaking roughly, it may be said that Sir W. Erle, Lord Elcho, Sir D. Gooch, Mr. Merivale, Mr. Booth, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Matthews take one side, and Lord Lichfield, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Harrison another, the latter gentlemen being wholly on the side of the Unions. The majority appear to recommend that it should be made unlawful for working men to combine in a refusal to work with particular persons, "with intent to prevent the employment of such persons." Now, we have not the smallest doubt that most schemes that have in any degree the nature of a strike, end in the cutting off of the nose to spite the face; and that, in the present state of their culture, working men as a body are unfit to carry out combinations of refusal to work either with or for particular persons. We mean that they do not appear to understand what true freedom is, or to be able in practice to keep their hands off each other for ends of compulsion. All this is much to be regretted; but what earthly right Parliament would have to enact that a given number of working men should not voluntarily meet and agree together not to work with particular individuals and support each other in that agreement by mutual help, is a question that lies beyond our wit. In the professions combination of this order, often tacit but still effective, is common enough. Employers may combine freely not to admit certain persons into their workshops. And upon what principle of justice, with what pretence of decency, can we be asked to declare that the labouring class may not combine too? Another recommendation of this majority is, that there shall be a public prosecutor appointed specially for trade offences, which, in the absence of the institution of public prosecutors as a general thing, is adding insult to injury. And a pretty task this public prosecutor would have if working men were forbidden to combine to refuse to work with particular members of their own body. What is combination? If twenty tailors meet privately in a back parlour, and one of the number says, "I shan't work in the same shop with So-and-so, and the nineteen men around him all wink, is that to be combining? If it is, how is the public prosecutor to know the facts, and prove them? We can scarcely believe that there is not some mistake. At all events, though a combination of certain working men, having for its object "to prevent the employment of others," would almost certainly prove to be a cruel and immoral combination, it is difficult to see how it could be defined for legal ends.

We should be glad to see the law stringently applied, and, if necessary, made more stringent in itself, so far as it is directed against all acts of compulsion applied by working men to others, whether men or masters. But the relation between master and man in this country (in spite of some relics of barbarism as to agricultural labour) is one founded upon a contract freely entered into on both sides. So long as its terms are not violated, either party may dissolve the relation at any time. The master may, for instance, dismiss one workman, or two, or three, or as many as he likes. On the other hand, one workman may withdraw without giving a reason; so may two; so may three. And where are we to draw the line, or how can we limit the right of intercommunication between human beings as to the reasons upon which they act? A master might dislike John Jones, and dismiss twenty men who were known friends of Jones without assigning any reason. Now, how can we refuse to the working men the right to say, "Twenty of us disapprove of James Smith, whom you employ; and we, being of one mind on this subject, refuse to work for you till you dismiss him"? How could it be proved that, for example, the men combining had not some colourable or even reasonable moral ground for not working with James Smith? Suppose—the case is not wholly imaginary—a drunken blackguard, who is very clever at his trade when sober, offers his labour to a master at half the ordinary wages of his class, and then the master reduces the wages of the rest of his men: is it to be made a crime for those men to combine and say "We will work for this master no longer till he dismisses this drunkard"?

In the majority of the cases in which working men combine not to work with particular persons, we believe they are not only foolish, but wrong and malignant too; but such combination does not exceed the limits of that freedom of action which is the natural birthright of an Englishman; and it is difficult to see how the law can safely interfere, except in cases where men combine to "obstruct" or "molest," or otherwise directly hurt another. "Picketing" was clearly wrong, and a thing which the law was bound to forbid; but it is not plain how a combination to refrain from doing something which, under no circumstances except those of a positive contract, the persons combining were bound to do, can be declared criminal.

A TICKLISH OPERATION.

THE traveller in the Alps, whether he be a pedestrian or is on what are called the roads—for the word Alps does not mean mountain, so Murray will tell you, but the pastures upon the sides of the mountain, covered by snow for a greater part of the year, and gradually laid bare as the season advances—will often find himself in a temporary fix if he should happen to meet with one of those exigencies of climate which require all his fortitude and no small degree of patience. Perhaps the members of a party who, having chartered a *bündl*, which is the local name for a mountain cart, are in some respects worse off than the pedestrian himself, or, at all events, than a knot of pedestrians going in company; for the *bündl* is simply a kind of box, furnished only with two fore-wheels, on which it hangs very low, the back end grazing along the ground behind not unlike the pictures

we sometimes see of ancient chariots. It may easily be imagined what is the effect of this mode of locomotion over a road where boulders, deep ruts, chasms, cracks, and hillocks form the pleasing variety of surface. In fact, the journey is almost unendurable, even with the aid of the feather-beds, cushions, bundles of straw, and other protections for the human anatomy with which the vehicle is stuffed. Even the *eilwagen* is not always the most pleasant—and, indeed, when an Alpine hailstorm comes on neither man nor horse can do much more than creep to the nearest shelter as best they may, or crouch upon the ground; and a critical experiment like that represented in our Engraving, and taken from the sketch of a traveller who made one of a party where the drivers as well as the tourists were at fault, may be the result of losing entire control when on the downhill route, and so having to bring Dobbin to a halt apart from anything that may

happen to be behind him or on his back. It is a question whether it is worse to be in the van or the rear on such an occasion, to be pushed or pulled. The fact is that many of the roads are fit only for mules, except under favourable circumstances of weather, and that, unless travellers are prepared for considering an awkward fix or two part of the pleasure of the journey, they had better not trust too much to the comfort of wheeled conveyances, except under experienced advice and guidance.

LAUNCH OF H.M.S. DRUID.

PTILESS sleet, alternating with scraps of thin, wintry sunshine, did not make the most pleasant kind of day for witnessing the launch of the *Druid*, at Deptford Dockyard, last Saturday; and yet, notwithstanding the unpropitious weather, a very large number



A DECIDEDLY TICKLISH OPERATION.

of persons assembled. Some special circumstances invested the launch of the *Druid* with peculiar, though not joyous, interest. It was probably the last launch that will take place at Deptford. Henceforth in Deptford Dockyard the hammer of the shipwright will be silent; and, as many of the spectators last Saturday were persons who depended on the dockyard for bread, not even the presence of Royalty could dispel the sense of depression and gloom. Mr. Lowe, when speaking at the Fishmongers' Hall, said, whenever an economical voice was raised against architectural extravagance, there were always persons ready to come forward and remind us that "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever." A similar disposition was manifested by some people on this occasion, who seemed to think that because the first ship that circumnavigated the globe was built in Deptford Dockyard, and a great Emperor chose it as the place where he would learn a trade and point a moral for all time, therefore the whole country should cry out, "Spare it, spare it; it ought not so to die." Of course, there were many who inveighed against "Liberal cheeseparing," quite unconscious that a Committee, in 1864, reported in favour of improving Deptford Dockyard out of existence—a course which was emphatically approved of by such respectable Conservatives as Sir

J. Hay, Sir J. Elphinstone, Mr. Corry, and Sir J. Pakington. The report stated:—"In recommending projects which will, if carried out, involve additional expenditure, your Committee do not think it beyond their duty to suggest that it is worthy of consideration whether Deptford, Woolwich, and Pembroke dockyards might not be suppressed altogether and disposed of, and the business now carried on in them transferred to the yards to which such important and costly additions are in progress or in prospect." Though the dockyard is to be closed, the possession of the works and buildings will not be given up, as, in the case of a naval war arising, it might be necessary to again press it into service. There does not seem to be much reason for apprehension on the part of those persons engaged in the dockyard, as it is proposed that the men on the establishment shall be transferred to other yards, and as many of the "non-establishment" hands as possible; while the mechanics will be absorbed as opportunities arise.

The *Druid* is a screw steam-corvette of ten guns, designed by Mr. C. J. Reed, C.B., the Chief Constructor of the Navy, and is furnished with engines of 350-horse power, the burden being in tons 1322 24-94ths. Her principal dimensions are:—Length between perpendiculars, 220 ft. 0½ in.; length of keel for tonnage,

104 ft.; breadth, extreme, 36 ft.; breadth for tonnage, 35 ft. 10 in.; breadth moulded, 35 ft. 2 in.; depth in hold, 19 ft. 7½ in. The figure-head of the corvette, which is in accordance with her antique name, opens like a folding-door, so as to allow the heavy bow gun to play on the enemy in front. Princess Louisa and Prince Arthur were received by Captain A. P. Eardley-Wilmot, R.N., Captain Superintendent; Admiral Denman, Commander Edmondson, and Mr. R. P. Saunders, the master shipwright; and amongst the ladies who graced the ceremony with their presence were Mrs. Wilmot, Mrs. and the Misses Edmondson, and Mrs. and the Misses Reed. Her Royal Highness Princess Louisa very deftly, to use the phrase of a bystander, "wasted good liquor," and the vessel had a name. She then cut the cord to which was attached the weight for knocking away the dogshore, and, amid great and re-echoing cheering, the noble craft glided proudly into the water. Their Royal Highnesses and the distinguished visitors then drank the good ship's health in that liquor which cads know as "fiz," and respectable people as champagne. Three cheers were given for Princess Louisa, and while the band played the National Anthem, two of the most popular members of the Royal family drove away from the scene of the last launch at Deptford.

SOME ANCIENT AND MODERN FASHIONS.

OVER and over again, in writing about the fashions, we find ourselves pointing out how there is nothing new under the sun, and that the latest mode is but a revival of some trick or fancy in the dress of our ancestresses. The worst of it is that just now attempts are being made to readopt the most hideous costumes. Attire that not only concealed but distorted the human form divine, and was laughed at and met with scorn, and even contempt, in its own day, so that it lasted only for a short time, is being, in the absence of any genius in millinery or invention in the art of dress-making, foisted on the fair public as the greatest novelty of the season. It matters little that a few resolute connoisseurs retain a fashion of their own, and try to sup-

port the classic simplicity or the Oriental splendour, at present barbarism or monstrosity is at a premium, and in some portion of the female attire, either in the coiffure, the undress of neck and shoulders, or the extraordinary vagaries that are displayed in waist and skirt, burlesque reigns triumphant. Even the approximate imitations of the antique are such imperfect adoptions of the models on which they are formed that they have about them something ludicrous, while we are daily threatened with a return to those distorted and repulsive dresses which degraded a large part of the reigns of the Georges in what was called society. In some slight hope of helping to restore a purer taste, and to point to the really graceful forms of an earlier antiquity as models worthy of being studied, we publish

an illustration bringing into comparison the beauty of the classic models, and some even of the less absurd modes of our own day.

No. 1 is a coiffure of the true old classic form, where the hair, beautiful in its simple arrangement, needed no ornament, but was itself the truest ornament to the modest and intelligent face. For high festive occasions the noble dames of Greece adopted the open helmet—tiara-fronted and Minerva-like—(shown in No. 2) where the feather or tuft was composed of the loose back hair, escaping in a thick bunch of tresses from the crown. In the rage for classic imitation which characterised the period of Napoleon I., who, fancying himself like the Imperial Caesar, only stopped short of the actual toga and sandals, the tiara was adopted at Courts and the Empress Josephine appeared as in fig. 8, but her



SOME ANCIENT AND MODERN FASHIONS.

head-dress was spoiled by its departure from the original simplicity. Seen side by side, there is no question which is the least attractive; there is a stagey attempt at show in the adaptation from which the grand and simple original is entirely free. No. 3 represents the mode of dressing the hair in the time of Faustina Antonina, who, probably possessing a great profusion of tresses, introduced an elaboration of the back hair, more carelessly simple, however, than our own formal and artificial imitation, as seen in figure 9, where the side rolls or wings at once suggest horsehair pads and cushions. No. 4 is doubtless the original model of the modern monstrosity called a chignon; but its graceful waves and tresses are profaned by comparison with our present fashion. The only worthy imitation is shown in No. 10, a really charming mode of arranging the hair, if the fillets or bandeaus that confine it be well chosen as to colour. No. 14 shows how the modern peplum might be approximated to the ancient tunic, No. 15; but, say what we

will as to its greater propriety, there is a look of misshapement about it which is scarcely encouraging. Nos. 17 and 18 exhibit the resemblance between a modern fashion, consisting of a pork-pie hat and mere burlesque chignon, with the mode as represented in Spain, France, and Germany in the fifteenth and part of the sixteenth century. If anything could be more hideous, that unenviable distinction will be found in 20 and 21, the former of these representing a variety of modern promenade costumes as regards the arrangement of the hair and the particular angle of the hat. It is doubtless a clumsy and timid attempt to revive the fashion shown in No. 23, which belongs to a century and a half ago, and had at least some prettiness in millinery to recommend it. No. 21 can be compared with nothing but No. 22. No human face and head, except it be locked up in visor and grim helmet, could be so utterly disfigured. A nun's veil is more attractive than the detestable "fall" that is the mere pretence of modesty and looks like vice itself mocking virtue. Between Nos.

19 and 23 there is just the shadow of a resemblance, the first being the famous head-dress of modern Rome—that is to say, of the Italian girls of the provinces and the "lower classes" generally; whether it is not immeasurably superior in grace and dignity to its absurd modification, we leave our readers to judge. Briefly to summarise the remaining parts of our illustration, No. 6, so well known and appreciated as the "safety pin," a modern invention which is a real blessing to mothers, finds its prototype in that elegant Greek brooch (No. 12) whereon the butterfly has been hovering for so many centuries. Finally, between No. 7, the ancient Cothurnus, supporting the muscles of the foot and the bone of the ankle without undue pressure or confinement, No. 11, the lighter and more graceful sandal, which left the foot free and springy, and the modern boots and shoes of the latest approved taste, there is a wide difference, but one not altogether unnecessary in consequence of the changing climate and the variously constructed roadways which belong to our time and country.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 348.

NEW MEMBERSHIP BEARING FRUIT.

New membership, as we saw it at the opening of Parliament, was, to us, on the whole, an unknown, unexplored region. But we had no need of a Divine afflatus to tell us that it was a region of great capabilities, and that, under favouring circumstances, a good many of the men we saw would shoot up and bear fruit, each after his kind. Some few of these men we knew—knew that in other soils they had borne fruit, and why should they not in this? Mr. Mundella, for example, the member for Sheffield, the supplanter of Roebuck, had been a frequent talker in Sheffield and other places, and we confidently prophesied that here he would not long be silent. Then there was Mr. Alderman Carter, of Leeds. He has long been a popular orator in the north, of the rough, vigorous, racy sort; and, as we watched his active, restless features, we perceived, or thought we did, that it would not be long ere he would try his powers. Then there was a certain Mr. Dodds, whom Stockton-on-Tees sent us. Of this gentleman we knew nothing; we had never heard his name till he went up to the table to be sworn; but we soon perceived that he meant business. He was so active, so restless, rushing about hither and thither like a swallow, and ever with a paper in his hand. That man, said we, will soon be upon his legs; such restlessness and energy must burst forth into speech before long; besides, he is a lawyer. Nor can Mr. Macfie, of Leith, another restless being, long keep silent. Well, our prophecies are becoming facts every day. Since we thus peeped into the future, all these men, with a score more new members, have been upon their legs—have spoken, and we must say spoken, with one or two exceptions, surprisingly well. On Friday night week we had three interesting and vigorous debates: one on education, another on Scottish faggot votes—a very lively affair this was—and a third on mail contracts, almost as lively.

MR. MELLY.

The first, on education, was begun by Mr. Melly. He is not a bran-new member; as for a few months he was in the last Parliament. When Mr. Beresford Hope left Stoke-on-Trent early in 1868 to become the member for the University of Cambridge, Mr. Melly, who had wooed the constituency of the Potteries in 1865, and failed—the potters then preferring Toryism, as represented by Mr. Hope, to Radicalism and Mr. Melly—went acourting again, and was accepted. And once more, in November, 1868, he was accepted. He was opposed by a London adventurer; but he, as we know, was bought off. He agreed to retire, provided his expenses at Stoke were paid. The money was paid, but, unfortunately, paid to his agents and not to him; and still more unfortunately, the agents did not pay the expenses, but “nobbled” the money, and left the poor adventurer still liable for said expenses. Mr. Melly is not of Stockton, but of Liverpool; and not a potter, but a merchant, of the firm of Melly and Romilly (son of Sir James Romilly). Mr. Melly is, or will be, if he should live till next August, thirty-nine years old. One would hardly have thought him so old, he is so active, so full of spirits, and of such youthful appearance. He was educated at Rugby, by Dr. Tait, now Archbishop of Canterbury. Before we further describe Mr. Melly, we may say that he is an author. He wrote a book named “Khartoum, and the Blue and White Niles,” hence we may suppose he has travelled in the East. He has also written sundry pamphlets. Mr. Melly is a philanthropist of the right sort. The term philanthropist has of late become a term of reproach. Idle young men think they do a clever thing when they sneer at philanthropists; but this has arisen mainly from the fact that many of our philanthropists—honest, well-meaning men though they be—have not acted wisely. Indeed, some have done harm rather than good. By their misguided efforts to cure the evils which they see and deplore, they have increased them. There are philanthropists and philanthropists. All are equally honest and equally charitable; but some are wise and others unwise. Some only prune the foul tree, and thus promote its growth; others would lay the axe to the root. Mr. Melly is one of the latter. To change our figure: Standing as it were upon an eminence, with clear vision, unclouded by prejudice, undimmed by luxurious indulgence, he sees before him a weltering Stygian lake of pauperism and crime, and he says to himself, “Is this foul, foetid morass inevitable—natural, undrainable?” He thinks not. He sees, or thinks he sees, that ignorance is mainly the cause of it. “Good! Then we will remove the ignorance.” And with surprising energy and faith he buckles himself to his work. And is it not admirable, readers, to see a wealthy man, instead of taking to horse-racing and gambling, and other more questionable pleasures, girding himself for such an onerous task? Mr. Melly is a very good speaker; we acknowledged this when he made his debut last year. He is fluent of speech, but not too rapid. He evidently studies and masters his subject before he speaks, and in a clear style he can express his thoughts. He will never astonish, nor perhaps much move, the House; but whenever he speaks as he did on Friday week he will gain and hold its ear and attention. We might take exception to some of his statistics, but it does not fall within our duty to do this; however, there are plenty of acute critics in the House who can effectually sift them.

THE BLIND MEMBER.

Mr. Melly proposed that the House should appoint a committee to investigate and report. Mr. Fawcett, in an admirable speech—the best, men say, that he ever delivered, which is saying a good deal—opposed this committee. “We have had enough of inquiry; the time for inquiry is gone; the time for action has come.” And no doubt he was right. The bluebooks which we already have would form a column at least 10 ft. high. The House went with Mr. Fawcett; and Mr. Melly, satisfied with the discussion, as he well might be, withdrew his motion. Travelling, as we do in the vacation, and mingling with all sorts of people, from the swells in the first-class carriage to the artisans in the third, we find that there are two men in the House who specially excite the curiosity of strangers—to wit, Mr. Fawcett, the blind member, and Mr. Kavanagh, the gentleman without arms and legs. But we have observed that Mr. Kavanagh excites only curiosity, whilst Mr. Fawcett is not only an object of curiosity but of deep interest and wonder. “How can the poor blind man make those wonderful speeches?” inquired a Welshman with whom we were chatting and smoking on the bench in front of a village hotel, at the foot of Moel Sibod. And to the uncultured, and even the cultured, mind, such speeches as Mr. Fawcett makes, interspersed with quotations and statistics, must ever be surprising. “How can he know so much?” said the inquirer; “he can’t read, poor man!” It was always “Poor man!” showing how much interest and pity Mr. Fawcett’s misfortune excites. “No,” said we, “but he has an excellent wife, and she reads to him.” “But how can he remember it all? I can’t remember what I read.” “Because he is blind.” The man for a time was puzzled. At last he hit upon the true philosophy of the thing. “I see,” he said; “he has nothing to think about but what he hears. He is like our blind harper, who can play all day without book, and knows all the Church prayers by heart. But I am sorry for Mr. Fawcett, though, poor man!” And so, deep in the Welsh mountains men have heard of Mr. Fawcett, and deplore his misfortune. Foolish people used to prophesy that Mr. Fawcett, among all sorts of difficulties, would be a failure in the House; and some went so far as to say he ought not to be there. Yet Mr. Fawcett is not a failure, but a success. Neither are there any difficulties of importance. His boy leads him to the door, the doorkeeper occasionally, but offener some member, leads him in; for there is no member in the House, not even a political opponent, who will not gladly lend the blind man an arm. Mr. Fawcett’s seat is just above the bar. If he comes late his seat may be occupied; but, if that be so, the occupier, though there may not be another seat vacant, promptly rises.

MR. OSBORNE MORGAN.

We intended, when we began to write, to say something about Mr. Mundella; but he must wait, for on Monday the adjourned

debate on the University Tests Bill came off, during which a fresh crop of bran-new speakers appeared—speakers, too, above the common level—and to these we must devote what remaining space we have at command. Do our readers remember the account of the Denbighshire election which appeared in this paper? Perhaps not. Let us, then, recall the facts to their minds. Denbighshire is the county in which the great potentate Sir Watkin Williams Wynn lives, in almost Royal state. He and his family have represented Denbighshire for a century or more. The second seat has often been hotly contested, and more than once a Biddulph—another great name in the county—has won this seat. The Wynns of Wynnstay are, as all the world knows, Tories. The Biddulphs of Chirk Castle are Whigs or something less. Colonel Biddulph, who represented Denbighshire in the last Parliament, had Adullamite proclivities. Tired of incessant and expensive warfare, which had raged for several years, these two great families, in 1857, made a compact on the one-and-one principle, and in that year, and in 1859, and again in 1865, there was no contest. The people naturally grumbled about this, but they had no power. A Wynn and a Biddulph in alliance were impregnable. But in 1868, when the constituency had been doubled in numbers, the Liberals became agitated, and at last determined, if possible, to rid themselves of this galling yoke. Biddulph they might tolerate; not because he was exactly to their mind, but because they could not hope to return two men. “Come, then, let us find a third man, and let him and Biddulph coalesce; and, who knows? perhaps we may dethrone the great potentate himself.” And men do say that if Biddulph would have consented, Sir Watkin might have been ousted. But Biddulph, poor man, halted, hesitated till it was too late; and so, at the close of the poll, Sir Watkin was ahead, the Colonel was at the bottom of the poll, and the Radical candidate, George Osborne Morgan, was returned. And now, readers, permit us to introduce you to this gentleman, for, if we mistake not, and in such matters we do not often make mistakes, you will often have to hear of him, and, perhaps, in your mind’s eye, see him rise to eminence in the House of Commons. Mr. Osborne Morgan sits below the gangway; at present he has no fixed seat there. The new members in that region have not yet shaken down into their places. He is a tall man, well made, and good-looking, as we see him from above; but, in truth, we have not yet sufficiently read his features to say much about them. He is a Welshman, as his name indicates. His father is the Rev. M. Morgan, Vicar of the old picturesque walled town of Conway. He was educated at Shrewsbury and at Oxford, where he took a first-class in classics, and obtained other honours. He is also learned in the law, having been called to the Bar; but he practises only as an equity draughtsman and conveyancer. This is Mr. Morgan. We had heard from Denbighshire that he had made capital speeches there; but we did not think much of that. A hustings reputation does not go for much; the crown awarded to orators in the provinces often shines but dimly when its wearer gets to the House; but in this case Fame with her trumpet blew a true note, and all the arguings of his friends were justified by the speech which Mr. Osborne Morgan delivered on Monday night. He is a very effective speaker, and with practice he will be a substantial power in the House. His attacks upon the University system were well directed, and every shot told: witness the loud cheers of his supporters, the cowed appearance and the faint groans of his opponents. Nothing could be more direct or more damaging than this shot: speaking about the recklessness with which oaths are taken and tests subscribed, he said, “Why, I knew an old University Fellow, who said, ‘I should like to see the oath which I would not take to secure a fellowship.’” This was *ad rem*. It was like an explosive shell tearing up the timbers and decks of a ship. So much for the matter of the speech. The elocution of it was not all that could be desired. It lacked calmness; it was too rapid. Moreover, the speaker did not manage his voice well. At times he was too loud, and anon at the end of his sentences he spoke so low that he was almost inaudible; and this, with the rapidity with which his words tumbled out, made it difficult for members at a distance to catch his meaning. These faults, though, doubtless arose from nervousness, and will disappear when Mr. Morgan shall have had more practice.

DR. LYON PLAYFAIR.

The cry is still they come. Here is another new member upon his legs. When he rose, half a dozen other men rose too, but Mr. Speaker pointed to the new man. At first some of the gentlemen on their legs seemed indisposed to give way; but straightway there arose a cry of “Playfair! Playfair!” and at that name every man anxious to speak incontinently dropped into his seat. What’s in a name? Nothing in a mere name; but this is much more than a mere name—a name known all over the civilised world. There are, though, people—people, too, high in social rank, even learned—who had never heard the name. “Who is the man?” said a young swell at the bar. “Dr. Playfair,” another member replied. “What is he?” “A great chemist.” “I never heard of him.” Had it been a racehorse of note the honourable member would have known all about it. The Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew’s have done themselves the honour of sending this [one of the most illustrious of their sons to Parliament. The personal appearance of Dr. Lyon Playfair is very different to that of his immediate predecessor. Mr. Morgan is tall and imposing; Dr. Playfair is short. Their style of speaking, too, is different. Mr. Morgan is rapid, hurried, if not hurried; Dr. Playfair calm and slow, but not too slow, whilst his intonation is perfect, his language concise and clear, his arguments perspicuous, direct, and conclusive. In slang phrase, if we may be allowed to use slang, the opponents of the bill were “shut up.” In short, here was the scientific demonstrator transferred from his professorial chair to the Senate. But the speech was not a mere dry argument. There was a touch of humour in it. He told us that “some Presbyterians took the test and obtained scholarships, although for the most part they afterwards returned to their former faith in Presbyterianism.” A laugh of the sneering sort broke forth here from the Opposition benches; but promptly the Doctor turned the tables by remarking, “Tests taken in such a manner and for a temporary purpose, could not benefit the Church which exacted them. *Infidelity after a signature is not attended with a penalty.*” This is at once humorous and sarcastic. We could say much more about this speech; but let all our readers peruse it, and they will thank the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew’s for sending us a representative worthy of their fame. Scotland has been called our silent sister; and certainly it has of late years sent us few speakers, and hardly any effective. But the Universities have determined to be vocal in the House—Glasgow, &c., sends us Moncrieff; Edinburgh, &c., Dr. Playfair.

Here is a little anecdote which will amuse our readers. Scotland has sent us a tall big-headed man from the far-awa’ north—a strong man in body and mind too, but quite unused to southern ways and customs. He was standing in the lobby when the Sergeant-at-Arms went by in Court dress. “Hech, mon,” said the Scot to a brother Scot, “is that a Bishop?”

GALLANT RESCUE OF FOUR LIVES.—At a meeting of the Royal Humane Society, held on Tuesday, at the offices, Trafalgar-square, several interesting cases of saving life from drowning were brought under the notice of the committee. The silver medal of the society was given to Mr. De Vere Alexander N. Irwin, a young man nineteen years of age, medical student of King’s College Hospital, for saving the life of his father, the Rev. T. Nesbitt Irwin, his sister, and two brothers, whose boat was capsized near Vevey, on the Lake of Geneva, about half a mile off the head-land of La Tour Bay, in several hundred feet of water. The difficulty and risk were increased by the violence of the sudden hurricane and tremendous waves which swamped the boat. Mr. Irwin, sen., had been disabled by a sprained wrist previously. Miss Irwin was drawn under the boat by her dress becoming entangled in the oarlock. Mr. De Vere Irwin dived five times for her and her brothers, and succeeded in placing them on the bottom of the boat, which was whirled rapidly over by almost every wave. Having rescued his sister and brothers, Mr. Irwin plunged also for his father when sinking exhausted, and succeeded in holding him also until rescued by the life-boat as they were drifting away. Unfortunately, Mrs. Irwin, who was also in the boat when it capsized, was washed away and drowned.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

A Select Committee was, at the instance of the Earl of Airliie, ordered to be appointed to inquire into the law of hypothec in Scotland; and a bill was laid upon the table by the Marquis of Clanricarde for the amendment of the bankruptcy law of Ireland.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE told Mr. McClure that he saw no opportunity of bringing forward this Session the subject of the extension of the municipal franchise in Ireland.

Mr. GLADSTONE, without further consideration, could not undertake to inform Mr. Miller whether it was the intention of the Government to fill up the vacancy in the office of Queen’s Remembrancer in Scotland, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Henderson.

The LORD ADVOCATE, in answer to Mr. Craufurd, promised soon to introduce a bill providing that all assessments for the poor in Scotland shall be made on the gross rental.

The Marquis of HARTINGTON said it was his intention to bring in a bill for authorising the grant of assurances on life as low as £3, and promised next week to announce his determination in regard to the proposal for the reduction of the postage on newspapers and other printed matter below 1d.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

Mr. MELLY, in a speech of considerable length, called attention to the present defective state of primary education, and moved for a Committee of Inquiry.

Mr. DIXON, in seconding the motion, thought that, although legislation on the subject could not take place this year, the basis for it might be prepared by the inquiries of a Committee.

Mr. FAWCETT, while fully admitting the need for improvement in primary education, was opposed to the appointment of a Committee, as likely to have the effect of retarding rather than advancing opinion on the subject. He therefore moved an amendment against it.

Mr. ADDERLEY could not quite agree either with the motion or the amendment.

Mr. MUNDELLA, after alluding to the superiority of some foreign system, appealed to the House to adopt measures for remedying the evils of our own.

Mr. JACOB BRIGHT thought there was no necessity for further inquiry.

Mr. HENLEY was in favour of it.

Mr. R. M. CARTER dwelt on the condition of the agricultural districts.

Mr. FORSTER thought that the time for Committees was passed, and the subject was quite ripe for a comprehensive measure, which, however, it would be impossible to introduce this Session.

The motion was afterwards withdrawn.

FAGGOT VOTES IN SCOTCH COUNTIES.

Mr. CRAUFURD then moved for certain returns as to the system of creating faggot voters in Scotch counties, particularly in those of Lute and Peebles, and accused “gentlemen of the Tory persuasion” as being the first to commence the system, although he did not assert that the Liberals were free from blame. He advocated as a remedy the adoption, as in boroughs, of a resident qualification.

The motion, after some discussion, was withdrawn.

MONDAY, MARCH 15.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Habitual Criminals Bill was submitted to consideration in Committee of the whole House, and Earl Grey moved an amendment to the fourth clause to the effect that the police, instead of having the power of summarily arresting a ticket-of-leave man who could not show that he was leading an honest life, should serve a notice upon him requiring him to report himself at the police office. After some debate the amendment was withdrawn; and at the instance of Lord CAIRNS the words “living by dishonest means” were substituted in the clause for “not living by honest means.” In this shape the clause was agreed to. The next clause, authorising the appointment of a superintendent to register tickets of leave, was amended by inserting words giving the Home Secretary, the alternative of appointing the Chief Commissioner of Police, or some other person, to the office. The bill was, after a long discussion, passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE DUMFRIESSHIRE ELECTION.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS brought up the report from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into Sir Sydney Waterlow’s qualification to sit for the county of Dumfries. The Committee reported that Sir Sydney Waterlow was disqualified.

NEW MEMBERS.

Mr. Miall took his seat for Bradford amid the cheers of the House, and Mr. Cunliffe took his seat for Bedford.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.

Mr. FORSTER moved the second reading of the Endowed Schools Bill, which was agreed to, and the measure was referred to a Select Committee.

UNIVERSITY TESTS ABOLITION BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the University Tests Bill was resumed by

Sir ROUNDELL PALMER, who stated at some length the reasons which influenced him in the course he had previously taken on this question, and in now opposing the amendment of Mr. Mowbray to reject the bill. Admitting that he was one of those who in 1864 strenuously resisted the first proposal to remove the obstacles then existing to the admission of Dissenters to the University of Oxford, he explained that he had taken this course not from any feeling of hostility towards Dissenters, but because he foresaw that such a change would necessarily lead to the disturbance of those relations between the University and the Church which he thought most useful to the Church and the country, and what experience had verified, that the movement then made could not be final, but that if Dissenters were admitted to the University on an equal footing with all other young men, they could not be refused equal privileges. He owned he had participated in the fears that the change would probably lead to the subversion of the influence and authority of religion in the teaching of the University, and feeling then, as now, that such a result would be a great calamity, he was unwilling to be a party to what he regarded as a first step to that result. From the principle on which he then took his stand he did not now retract—that above all things the influence and authority of religion in the education of the University should be maintained; and if he felt that it could not be maintained without rejecting the measure as an inevitable corollary on what had already been done, he would not hesitate to oppose it. But he could not regard the bill in that light, for its intention was not to interfere with the principle of religious education, and in Committee he should move certain amendments which would show more explicitly and clearly that the sense of the Legislature was in this respect consistent with the intention of the bill.

After a lengthy discussion, the bill was read the second time without a division. Sir J. Coleridge intimating his willingness to accept all save one of Sir R. Palmer’s amendments—the exception being the proposal of a new declaration to be taken by lay professors, to the effect that they “will never endeavour, directly or indirectly, to teach or inculcate any opinion opposed to the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, or to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England as by law established.”

TUESDAY, MARCH 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House, during a half-hour’s sitting, passed the Common Law Courts (Ireland) Bill through Committee, the principal amendment being one, moved by Lord Westbury and accepted by the Lord Chancellor, transferring the appointment of certain officials from the Lord Lieutenant to the Courts themselves.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, in state, appeared at the bar of the House with petitions praying for perfect religious equality in Ireland, for an amnesty of political prisoners, and for the consolidation of Irish railways and the reduction of tariff for goods and passengers. Mr. W. N. Hodgson presented a petition in favour of the appointment of Mr. Lowther as Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland. Mr. C. Howard a petition for inquiry into the appointment, and Mr. Bright a petition from Somersetshire in favour of the ballot.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

Mr. OTWAY said, in answer to Mr. TOWERS, that a bill for a uniform and permanent law of extradition would be introduced in the House of Lords.

Mr. GRANT DUFF, in reply to Colonel North, explained the delay in the issue of the papers relative to the Borda and Kirwee prize money.

Mr. BRIGHT, in answer to Mr. Gilpin, said the Board of Trade had no power to settle the dietary of merchant seamen, nor did he think it would be advisable to insert a dietary scale into the Mercantile Marine Bill.

Mr. CARDWELL, in reply to Mr. Shaw, explained the regulations governing the sale of spirits in canteens.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. LEATHAM, in drawing attention to the expediency of taking votes by ballot at Parliamentary elections, observed that he did not pretend to claim for the ballot that it would put down bribery altogether; but he certainly felt that it would interpose fresh obstacles to corruption; and to those who opposed it he would say that they might as well object to the use of new locks and bolts, on the ground that human ingenuity would still be able to invent picklocks that would open the one and crowbars strong enough to force the others. He was also of opinion that it would be the means of preventing intimidation; and in that

the names of tunes so often varied? Chemists complain of the confused nomenclature of their science, and I think people who use tune-books might make a similar complaint.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

With all their faults, the members of the theatrical profession are always to the fore when a deed of charity is to be done; there is no profession on earth that subscribes so readily or so liberally to relieve the wants of its unfortunate members. The greatest credit is due to the ladies and gentlemen who gave their services at DURY LANE, last Thursday week, in aid of the burnt-out members of the Hull Theatre company; but, at the same time, I think it may be questioned whether monster entertainments of this kind are not becoming so common as materially to affect their value as engines of charity. It appears to me that Hull is quite able to take care of its own sufferers, as Glasgow did, and as Edinburgh did, when important theatres in those towns were destroyed by fire. Of course there can be no objection to the London members of the profession collecting money for their unfortunate provincial brethren by means of monster performances, if their doing so, except in cases of the direst necessity, does not weaken the effect of this usually successful means of alleviating theatrical distress. But it is an undoubted fact that these performances grow weaker and weaker, as they are repeated; and it is difficult to resist the conclusion that, in course of time, their good effect will be almost nullified if they are repeated, except at considerable intervals of time. One most important London company—the Prince of Wales's—seems to have taken this view of the matter, for their names did not appear in the programme. The house was thinly attended, and the net receipts did not exceed £150.

There are rumours of more new theatres. The POLYGRAPHIC HALL is to be transformed into a regular playhouse for the performance of drama and burlesque next May. The theatre will be considerably enlarged and very much improved. It opens under the management of Messrs. Bradwell and Field.

The ST. JAMES'S is to be pulled down and rebuilt, as far as its internal arrangements are concerned, and will open in September, under Mrs. John Wood's management, for legitimate comedy and burlesque. Mr. Brough has already been engaged. Mr. Toole will probably join the company.

The OXFORD MUSIC HALL is also to be a theatre, but I have heard no details.

Mr. Barry Sullivan will play "legitimate" pieces only, at the HOLBORN. He opens with a three-act play in blank verse, by Mr. Tom Taylor. Mr. Coghlan has been engaged.

A new classical burlesque by a new candidate for dramatic honours—a Mr. Sykes—is in rehearsal at the LYCEUM. "Life for Life" has been much shortened, and now plays briskly enough.

The new piece at the GAIETY, by Mr. T. W. Robertson, will be produced next Saturday. Mr. Clayton and Miss Sanger have been specially engaged for it.

THE LIBERATED FENIANS.—A soiree was held in Cork, on Wednesday evening, in celebration of the national festival. The Mayor presided. Colonel Warren and several of the released Fenian prisoners attended, and were received with unbounded enthusiasm. Strong Fenian speeches were made by O'Mahony, who was tried for treason-felony in 1867, and acquitted; and by Colonel Warren. O'Mahony said he regretted nothing in the past, and was hopeful of the future. Warren declared himself a believer in the sabre as a means of uplifting a down-trodden nation, exhorted the people to be united, and there was nothing they might not attain. The Mayor dissented from Colonel Warren's views. The disloyal sentiments were received with loud cheers. O'Brien, the released Fenian, made a speech, but said nothing objectionable.

ELECTION PETITIONS.—At Beverley, Mr. Baron Martin has declared the election of Sir H. Edwards and Mr. Kennard void at common law, without having recourse to the new special statute. He believed, the Judge said, that a great number of persons bribed at the municipal election voted under the influence of the money they had received at the Parliamentary election. At the same time, he acquitted the Conservative candidates of any personal knowledge of the corrupt practices proved. The costs follow the event. The Liberal members for the city of Hereford have been declared unduly elected. Mr. Justice Blackburn considering the charge of treating by an agent to have been fully proved. As the complicity of the hon. gentlemen was not so evident, he adjudged each party to pay its own costs. At Blackburn the Conservative sitting members have been declared not duly elected, in consequence, mainly, of the intimidation that prevailed. Mr. Bourke, the Conservative member for King's Lynn, and colleague of Lord Stanley, has been declared duly elected—the costs to follow the event.

INCREASED INCOME TAX AGAIN—WHY?—It has been announced that, notwithstanding the retrenchment measures of the Gladstone Ministry, an increase of the income tax is needed. The immediate pretext for this is the expense of the late Abyssinian War. But, surely, with such an enormous revenue as is now raised, any further increase is wholly an unnecessary burden on the patient, credulous population of Great Britain. Two words explain the real cause—jobbery and extravagance. Not only have the military and naval expenses of the country, framed on peace estimates, been ten millions per annum additional ever since the Crimean War (irrespective of increased debt), but the jobbery is rendering England a laughing-stock to the world. Mr. Childers has just stated in Parliament that we pay (handsomely) seventy-nine Vice-Admirals, of whom only twenty-three are in service and only four at sea. We pay 127 Rear-Admirals, of whom only three are at sea and only six in harbour. There are only sixty-one Captains afloat out of 725 who are paid, and soon as to Lieutenants and other officers. Not only does the country bear this patiently, but the numerous recipients of the public money are mustering a strong opposition against the gentle pruning measures ventured by Mr. Childers, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Baxter. The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* states that very disgraceful corruptions are being discovered at the Admiralty; and he adds, "Some of those implicated are men not only high in the service but having intimate connection with both Houses of Parliament; and it is almost needless to say that desperate efforts have been made to hush up the scandal." It further appears that a representative of the new Admiralty Board has been threatened with personal violence by some obscure officials at Somerset House. Every Englishman who possesses any influence with the press and with his Parliamentary representatives should now and henceforth perseveringly exert it to save himself from further fraud and oppression. The work of clearance will require years of hard exertion. The stables are Augean.

THE NEW COURTS OF JUSTICE.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer having requested to know the views of Mr. F. W. Shields, C.E., upon the subject of the site of the new courts, that gentleman has made a short report upon the matter. In regard to architectural effects he recognises the superiority of the Thames Embankment as a site unequalled in London for a great national monument, but he attaches importance to facility of access to the main floor of the building; and while the level of Carey-street is 16 ft. higher than the Strand, the level of the Thames Embankment is 30 ft. below the Strand, showing a considerable difference in favour of the Carey-street site. Mr. Edward Ryde has estimated for him that the abandonment of that site and substitution of the embankment site would cost £725,000. For in Carey-street the Government had purchased and cleared 7½ acres for £800,000, or £106,666 per acre, one half of which amount would be lost by re-sale; the cost of 7½ acres on the embankment he estimates at £1,125,000 or £150,000 per acre, and deducting £400,000 realised by the above re-sale, the result is £725,000. With regard to the approaches, Mr. Shields is of opinion that the adoption of the embankment site would create an intolerable blockade of Fleet-street and the Strand by carriages crossing from Holborn to the law courts; and that, upon the whole, the Carey-street site, though inferior in architectural effect, would be the most advantageous of the two if there were a leading thoroughfare on its Holborn or northern side. He proposes, therefore, the construction of a wide street in continuation of Piccadilly and Long-acre through Carey-street, crossing Farringdon-street by a viaduct, to the beginning of Cheapside at St. Paul's, widening Great Turnstile to give a carriage communication from Holborn to the new law courts. The cost of such a street should be shared in equitable proportions between the Government and the metropolis; the latter obtaining a new street which will supply an acknowledged want, the former paying for obstructing by its law courts the leading thoroughfare of the City. Mr. Shields proposes, further, that a company should be allowed to construct a railway under the new street and under Cheapside—in fact, from Kensington to the Mansion House—and that the company should be required to widen Coventry-street, Long-acre, and the Poultry, the space so acquired being made available in the construction of the line and stations; and also to raise the bottom of the Serpentine to a uniform depth of 4 ft. with the material excavated from the railway tunnel. Messrs. Shields and Ryde estimate the cost of this project as follows:—Net cost of the railway (nearly four miles) and widening streets, £1,680,000; assuming the net receipts at £600 per mile per week, or £124,800 per annum, this would pay six per cent on a capital of £2,080,000, leaving a surplus of £400,000 to be paid by the railway company for the concession. The cost of the purchase of property and formation of the new streets, with all modern improvements, is put at £1,600,000; deducting the railway company's contribution of £400,000, there remains £1,200,000 as the cost of the new streets, to be divided between the Government and the metropolis.

OBITUARY.

DUKE CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.—Duke Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, whose death occurred at the end of last week, played no unimportant part in the strange and confused imbrolio which led to the war between Denmark and Germany, and to the ultimate aggrandisement of Prussia. Being the head of the elder branch of the house of Holstein, the late Duke was unquestionably the lawful heir of King Frederick VII., so far as the Schleswig-Holstein duchies were concerned, in the event of that monarch dying without issue. In 1848, however, the chance of his reversion seemed of no great value. Frederick VII. had just ascended the throne of Denmark and of the duchies; and his Majesty, who was still in the prime of life, was very likely—having been married and divorced twice—to form a third marriage. During that year the Schleswig-Holsteiners revolted against Danish rule, and Duke Christian identified his fortunes with those of the insurgents. The insurrection failed; and from that time Frederick VII. resolved that, whoever succeeded him upon the throne, it should not be the kinsman who had made common cause with the rebels, as the inhabitants of the duchies were styled at Copenhagen. Moreover, poor Duke Christian was under a cloud because he had contracted a left-handed marriage with Countess Daneshield—a union which was never recognised by the Danish Court. After the collapse of the insurrection, the Duke was induced, in consideration of a large sum of money, to renounce all pretensions to the duchies in his own name and in that of his children; and, by the famous protocol of London, a cadet of the younger branch of the Holstein family—the Sonderburg-Glücksburgs—was declared to be the lawful heir and successor of King Frederick VII. How far this renunciation was morally or legally binding upon the Duke or his heirs was a question which German jurists and politicians spent years in discussing. Immediately after the late King of Denmark's decease Prince Christian assumed the title of Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, and then transferred it to his eldest son, who, during the early stages of the Dano-German war, held a sort of mock sovereignty at Kiel, under the title of Frederick VIII. Probably if the Danish Government and nation had not attempted to interfere with the regular course of the succession, in order to exclude Duke Christian of Sonderburg-Augustenburg, the annexation of the duchies by Prussia might have been deferred a few years longer. However, the Danes may console themselves by the reflection that no dynastic arrangements could have permanently rescued the searight Schleswig-Holstein from incorporation with Germany. The late Duke was born July 19, 1798. He succeeded his father in the dukedom in June, 1814; and married, in September, 1820, Louisa Augusta, Countess of Dainskolde.

THE EARL OF GLASGOW.—The death of the Earl of Glasgow took place, on Wednesday week, at his seat, Hawkhead, Renfrewshire. The late Earl, who had for a long series of years been one of the leading supporters of the Turf, and was the senior member of the Jockey Club, was the Right Hon. James Carr-Boyle, Earl of Glasgow, Viscount Kelburne, and Lord Boyle, of Kelburne, Stewartown, Cambranes, Fenwick, Largs, and Dalry, in the Peerage of Scotland; Baron Ross of Hawkhead, in the county of Renfrew, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, and Lord Lieutenant of the county of Renfrew. He was a retired Commander of the Royal Navy. He was the second son of George, fourth Earl of Glasgow, by his first wife, Lady Augusta Hay, fourth daughter of James, fourth Earl of Erroll, and granddaughter and heir of Sir William Carr of Etal, in the county of Durham. His Lordship married, Aug. 4, 1821, Georgiana, third daughter of the late Mr. Edward Hay-Mackenzie, but leaves no issue. He is succeeded in the family honours and Scottish estates by his half-brother, the Hon. George Frederick Boyle, born in 1825, and married, 1856, to the Hon. Montagu Abercromby, daughter of George Ralph, third Lord Abercromby. The present peer was M.P. for Bute from February till July, 1865. The English estates at Etal, &c., go to his sister, Lady Augustus Fitzclarence, who married one of the sons of the late King William IV.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES C. PARKER, BART.—The death of Admiral Sir Charles Christopher Parker, Bart., took place last Saturday, at Clifton. The gallant Baronet was the third son of Christopher Parker, by Augusta Barbara Charlotte, daughter of Admiral the Hon. John Byron, and aunt of the poet. This gallant Admiral distinguished himself in the Lowestoff frigate at the taking of Fort Omsa, and his father was created a Baronet for his distinguished naval services during the American War. He ultimately became Admiral of the Fleet. The late Baronet was born June 16, 1792, consequently he was in his seventy-seventh year. He married, Sept. 19, 1815, Miss Georgiana Ellis Palmer; and succeeded his brother, Sir John Edmond George Parker, fourth Baronet, in November, 1855. The Baronetcy becomes extinct by his demise. He entered the Navy at an early age, and was midshipman of the Eagle at the storming of Capri and defence of Gaeta; served on the Unité, and received a severe hurt in the expedition against the town of Cotrona in 1810; also served in her boats at an attack on a convoy under the batteries off Cape Taltiat in 1811, for which he was made a Lieutenant; and he was Lieutenant of the Malta at the siege of Tarragona. His commission as Lieutenant bore date June 17, 1811; that of Commander, April 5, 1815; Captain, April 23, 1822; Rear-Admiral (reserve), Oct. 7, 1852; Vice-Admiral, Nov. 28, 1857; and Admiral, April 27, 1863.

ADMIRAL SIR PETER RICHARDS.—Admiral Sir Peter Richards, K.C.B., died on Tuesday morning, aged eighty-two. The late Admiral entered the Navy in 1798, was actively engaged under Admiral Sir W. Parker in the Mediterranean, and distinguished himself in China in 1842. His commissions bore date as follow: Lieutenant, Sept. 12, 1807; Commander, Sept. 16, 1816; Captain, Sept. 17, 1828; Rear-Admiral, June 6, 1855; Vice-Admiral, April 12, 1862; and Admiral, Sept. 12, 1865.

SIR WILLIAM CLAY, BART.—The above Baronet died on Saturday last, after a lengthened illness. The late Sir William Clay, who represented the Tower Hamlets in the House of Commons from the general election in 1832 to 1857, was the only surviving son of the late Mr. George Clay, the wealthy London merchant and shipowner, and for some years was in partnership with his father. He was born in 1791, and married, in 1822, Harriet, only surviving daughter and coheir of Mr. Thomas Dickson, of Fulwell Lodge, Middlesex, by whom he leaves a numerous family. The deceased Sir William was created a Baronet in 1811. He was secretary to the Board of Control in Lord Melbourne's Administration, from 1839 to September, 1841. Sir William was a decided Liberal; was in favour of the ballot and triennial Parliaments, and moved the repeal of the corn laws in 1837.

THE HON. W. E. COCHRANE.—The Hon. W. E. Cochrane, son of the ninth Earl of Dundonald, expired on Monday, at 5, Osnaburg-terrace, Regent's Park. He was born in 1781. He entered the 15th (King's) Hussars in 1801, with which regiment he was present as Major at Sahagun, in Sir John Moore's expedition in 1808, for which he received a medal. He also received a clasp for Vittoria, where he commanded the Duke of Wellington's body-guard in his advance on the enemy. He is succeeded by his only son, William Marshall Cochrane, Major 1st Lanark Militia, and Lieutenant-Colonel 2nd Administrative Battalion Surrey Rifle Volunteers.

THE HON. EDWARD JORDON, C.B.—A Jamaica correspondent writes:—"I regret to announce to you the death, on Feb. 8, of the Hon. Edward Jordan, C.B. Mr. Jordan's name is closely connected with the affairs of Jamaica for upwards of forty years, which have formed the most important period in the history of this country. He was a gentleman of colour, of whom men of colour might deservedly feel proud. He has filled the highest posts of honour here; has been Speaker of the Assembly, Member of the Legislative Council, Premier, President of the Privy Council, and Mayor and Custos of Kingston. He was for many years editor and joint proprietor of the *Morning Journal* newspaper. He was a good writer, and a most calm and lucid speaker. The deceased

gentleman was sixty-eight years of age. He was universally esteemed, even in the fiercest battles of political parties. Mr. Jordan always stood high in the esteem of his bitterest opponents. A few years ago the Queen conferred upon him the honour and title of Companion of the Bath, but I cannot remember a single instance in which he attached 'C.B.' to his signature—a more unassuming man never lived. His death is universally regretted. The funeral took place on the 9th, in Kingston, and was attended by the whole population of the town and surrounding districts."

ECCENTRIC BEQUESTS.

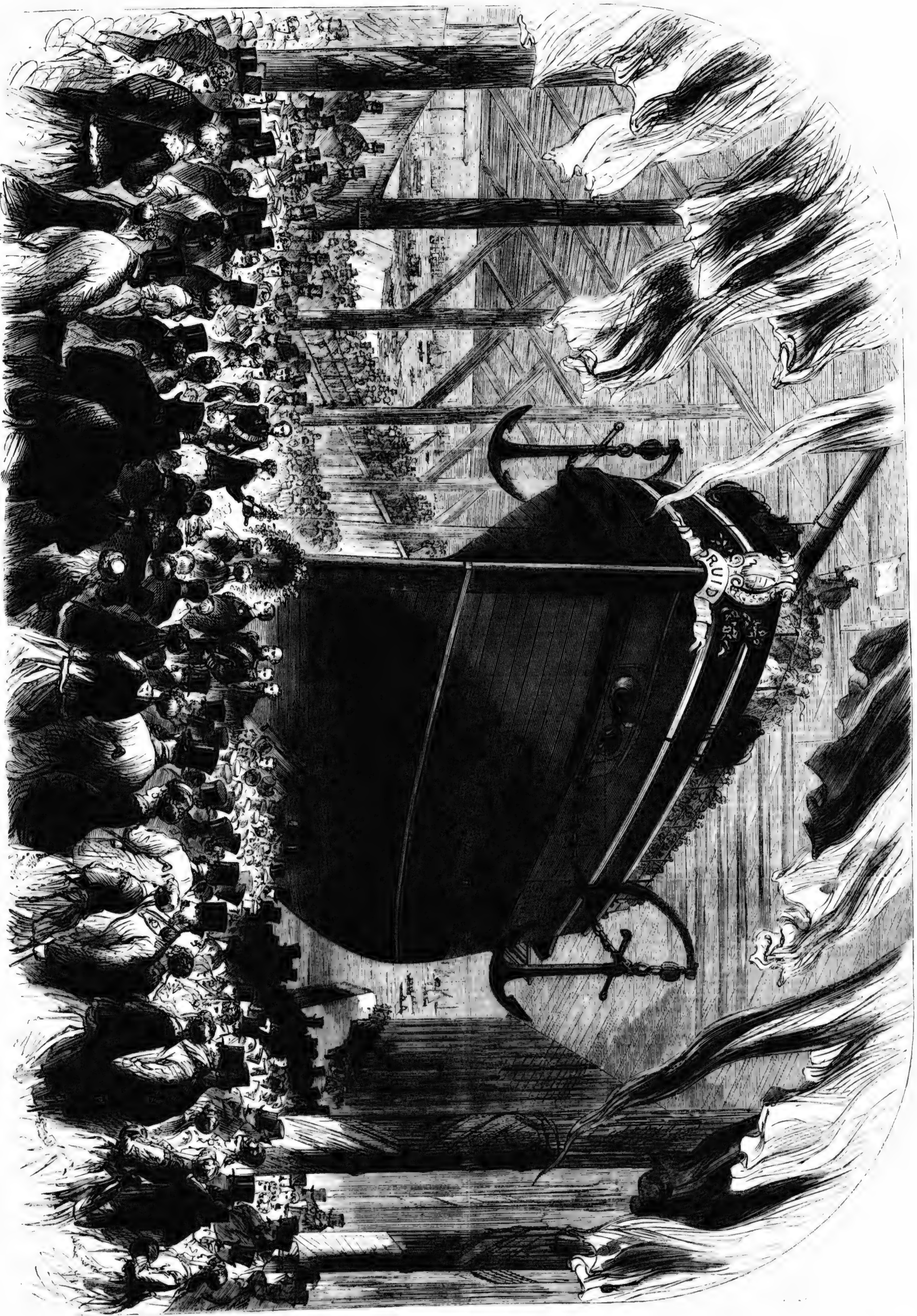
THE will of the late eminent astronomer, Sir James South, of which an account is published in a new biographical magazine called the *Register*, contains an eccentric bequest. "The testator," we read "has left a pocket chronometer each to the Earls of Shaftesbury and Rosse, in the fullest confidence that they will carry them in the place where he (he deceased) is in the habit of carrying his—namely, in the pantaloons-pocket, properly so called." This tender regard and anxious provision for the future habitat of the bereaved time-keepers is very whimsical. The fate of the chronometers in the lordly keeping to which they are intrusted is not likely to resemble that of the watch acquired by the Highlander in one of Scott's novels, which unfortunately "died" within twenty-four hours after coming into its owner's possession. The brookless hero, being neither mechanist nor financier, was ignorant equally of the mysteries of tick and of the philosophy of winding-up. Possibly the bequest contains some relic of an old joke, or skeleton of a facetious controversy, in which the astronomer may have been determined to have the last word as against his noble friends. These jests *d'outre tombe* are not rare in testamentary history. The bantering bequest of David Hume to his friend John Home, the author of "Douglas," is well known. There were two points of difference between them; one orthographical, as to the spelling of their common name; the other gastronomic, as to the comparative merits of port and of claret. The sceptical philosopher stood up dogmatically for port and the letter "u." David Hume had not many points in common with Samuel Johnson, but he shared his contempt for claret, as "poor stuff." "A liquor which would drown a man before it made him drunk. No, Sir; claret is the liquor for boys; port for men." So thought not the Rev. John Home, author of "Douglas: a Tragedy." Of his vinous tastes, the codicil to David Hume's will remains the literary record:—"I leave to my friend, Mr. John Home, of Kilduff, ten dozen of my old claret at his choice, and one single bottle of that other liquor called port. I also leave him six dozen of port, provided that he attests under his hand, signed John 'Hume,' that he himself alone finished that bottle at two sittings. By this concession, he will at once terminate the two differences that ever arose between us concerning temporal matters." Possibly humorous bequests like those of David Hume and Sir James South do not indicate what severe moralists would call a proper frame of mind—good temper and a cordial recollection, half-sad, half-cheerful, of old friendship not being entitled, in some views of human life, to the posthumous honours of religion. But they are at any rate better deserving imitation than malicious bequests of halters for the purpose of self-suspension, or of shillings to purchase the same, or of reproaches and advice, which furnish the main part of the curiosities of testamentary literature. Among facetious bequests we may reckon the will lately made by our lively friend, Mr. Cornelius O'Dowd, and published in *Blackwood's Magazine*—not, we hope, his last contribution to that periodical. He bequeaths his buoyancy to our iron-plated squadron, his faith in public men to Englishmen leaving their country, his modesty to lady novelists, and his curiosity to Mr. Darby Griffith. His other admirable qualities he distributes with equal judgment. What Mr. Cornelius O'Dowd does in lively jest, one John Moody, of Westminster, boot-maker, did in sober earnest more than sixty years ago, leaving to Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., M.P., in his last will and testament, "this piece of friendly advice: to take a special care of his conduct and person, and never more to be the dupe of artful and designing men at a contested election, or even among persons moving in a higher sphere of life; for placement of all descriptions have conspired against him, and if prudence does not lead him into private life certain destruction will await him." There have been members for Westminster and other places, both before and since, to whom a bequest of this kind might have been serviceable.

MONT CENIS TUNNEL.—Steady progress continues to be made with the works of the great tunnel through Mont Cenis. At the end of last month 9386 metres had been completed—viz., 5474 metres at the south end, and 3912 at the north. The number of metres still to be excavated is 2835. It is stated that the character of the rock at each of the workings is now the same, and there seems to be good reason for believing that the present rate of advance—112 metres a month—will be maintained to the end. In that case the opening of the tunnel through its entire length may be expected to take place by the month of July, 1871, or perhaps earlier, owing to the improvements which are constantly taking place in the manner of working.

THE REPRESENTATION OF DUMFRIESSHIRE.—At the meeting of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to try the validity of the return of Sir S. H. Waterlow for Dumfriesshire, on Monday, it was stated that on Oct. 16 last Sir S. H. Waterlow made a verbal agreement to retire from the firm of Waterlow and Sons, who had a contract with the Government, as from Sept. 29 preceding. He was elected for Dumfriesshire on Nov. 21, and signed the formal deed of dissolution of partnership five days afterwards. The question for the Committee was whether, with Sir S. Waterlow's capital still remaining in the firm, the failure to sign the formal deed of dissolution until after the election vitiated the return. They unanimously reported to the House in the affirmative.

EARTHQUAKES IN LANCASHIRE.—Reports from various parts of East Lancashire and the West Yorkshire borders concur in stating that an earthquake occurred a few minutes after six on Monday evening. The vibration was violent at Accrington, Haslingden, Rosegrove, and Waterfoot, lasting seven or eight seconds. It was more or less perceptible at Blackburn, Bury, Middleton, Todmorden, and Sowerby Bridge. A momentary tremor was experienced in the central district of Manchester. In some of the suburbs—Pendleton and Cheetwood, for instance—the direction appeared to be from east to west. Accounts differ by a few minutes as to time; but we hear none mentioned earlier than six o'clock or later than a quarter past six. At some of the towns mentioned above people rushed out of their houses in alarm, asking one another what had happened. A chimney is said to have been thrown down at Newchurch, and a crack has been left in the wall of the Haslingden railway station.

THE ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN.—Picturesquely situated on the side of one of the Surrey hills, some four miles from Croydon, is a handsome building which represents the successful establishment of an institution, founded, in 1844, by the late Dr. Andrew Reed, for the maintenance and education of fatherless children. This institution professes to be purely catholic in its character, and to know nothing of the distinctions "which divide the religious world;" the founder having made it a rule absolute, beyond the control of any future general meeting, or any act of incorporation, that, while the education of the children shall be "strictly religious and scriptural," no denominational catechisms shall be introduced, and no forms imposed upon any child, contrary to the convictions of its parent or guardian. Children of both sexes are received from all parts of the kingdom, one third of those now in the asylum having come from the country, and the remaining portion from the metropolitan district. In all, four hundred children have been clothed, fed, and educated, and the committee congratulate themselves and the subscribers on the fact that, almost without an exception, those who have left the institution "have been introduced to good positions in the world." The number of children at present in the institution is 206. The annual expenditure is no less than £8000, and there are, unfortunately, liabilities outstanding to the amount of £5000. The anniversary festival of this charity was held at the London Tavern, on Thursday evening, under the presidency of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, who was supported by Mr. C. Reed, M.P., the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Sir F. Lyett, &c. The chairman, having proposed the usual courtly and official toasts, made an earnest appeal on behalf of the charity, and gave "Prosperity to the Asylum for Fatherless Children." The result was a promise of subscriptions amounting to £1300. Amongst the other toasts was that of "The House of Commons," proposed by the Rev. Newman Hall, who referred in eloquent terms to the presence of Mr. Charles Reed, and to his connection with the founder of this charity. Mr. Reed, in responding to the toast, expressed his conviction that the present House of Commons was animated by an earnest desire to do what they could to uplift the lower classes of the people from the degradation and debasement into which they have fallen. The other toasts were in honour of the officers of the charity.



LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP DREDGE AT DEPTFORD DOCKYARD.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES have arrived in Cairo from their trip up the Nile, and are expected to return to this country about May 10.

PRINCE ARTHUR is to visit Dublin in April, and arrangements are already made for his public reception on the 5th. His stay will extend over ten days or a fortnight.

LORD STRATHAIRN will succeed the late Lord Gough in the command of the Royal Horse Guards.

MR. BASS, M.P., is slowly recovering from his recent severe attack of illness.

SIR JOHN LAWRENCE arrived on Monday evening, about six o'clock, at the Charing-cross station, where he was met by Sir R. Montgomery, Sir A. Thayer, Colonel Becher, C.E.; Mr. George Campbell, and other gentlemen among his friends and acquaintances, who were anxious to welcome the late Viceroy of India on his return to his native country. Sir John came in her Majesty's steamer Caradoc to Brindisi, and thence over Mont Cenis and by Paris to England. It is reported that Sir John will be raised to the Peerage, by the title of Viscount Foyle, the name of the place where he was educated.

MR. CECIL GUINNESS has issued his address to the electors of Dublin-Boroughs promising to support Conservatism, he states that he will defend the interests of the Church.

PROFESSOR MORLEY is at work on the continuation of his useful "Tables of English Literature," which show at a glance all the contemporary authors and all the books of note published in any year.

A SUSPENSION of the manufacture of the Palliser chilled shot has been ordered in consequence of a report made from Shoeburyness of the breaking of several of them in the bore of the gun when fired.

THE BRADFORD ELECTION has terminated in the triumphant return of Mr. Miall. The numbers at the close of the poll were—Miall, 9243; Thompson, 7896: majority, 1447.

CARDINAL CULLEN has refused to sanction, either directly or indirectly, the proposal for a collection on St. Patrick's Day at the doors of the Dublin chapels in aid of the released Fenians. He characterises the movement as a mere stratagem to obtain from the country a mark of approbation of Fenianism.

MR. COOPER, the traveller, who penetrated from Shanghai to Yunnan, but was driven back by the mandarins, has arrived in Calcutta with the object of approaching Yunnan from the side of India.

THE OLD DURHAM THEATRE, which had once been the property of the Kemble family, was burned to the ground early on Thursday morning.

THE REV. CHARLES COLLINS, a clergyman residing at Drayton, a few miles from Stourbridge, has been committed to Worcester Gaol, in default of finding two sureties of £100 each to keep the peace towards Mr. John Harward, a Stourbridge solicitor.

A COMMISSION is about to sit at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, to inquire into and report upon the propriety of abolishing the Sandhurst preparatory institution and amalgamating it with the Woolwich Academy.

THE GOVERNORS OF QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY, in their report for 1887, say that their receipts, including balance from the previous year, were £241,915 16s. 5d., and disbursements, £230,920 2s. 7d. The balance carried forward was £11,895 13s. 10d.

MURPHY, a steward on the estate of the Earl of Leitrim in Donegal, was shot the other day while in the discharge of his duties. He is severely wounded, but at the date of the last advice was still alive. He is believed to have been mistaken for another man.

TWO SLAVE-DHOWS, captured off Madagascar by the Penguin, were condemned in the Court of Admiralty on Tuesday. One of them 115 slaves had been found, with a crew of fifteen men.

MR. CHANDOS WHEN HOSKINS and Colonel Edward Clive are in the field as Liberal candidates for Hereford, in the place of Messrs. G. Clive and J. Wylie.

A NEW PROTESTANT CHURCH in Madrid will be opened for Divine service to-morrow (Sunday).

THE MEMBERS OF THE OXFORD UNION, after a protracted debate, have recorded their opinion, by a majority of 22 votes, that all tests should be abolished in the University.

SEVEN PERSONS WERE KILLED, and a great many wounded, at a terrible explosion that took place in Paris, on Tuesday evening, at a chemical laboratory in the Place de la Sorbonne.

A FRIEND of the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants, Hornsey-rose, has presented £1000 in aid of its funds, and promises £500 more if the sum of £5000 can be raised for its benefit during the present year. The committee will be happy to receive contributions in order to secure this large donation. The office is 56, Ludgate-hill.

AN ACCOUNT of the receipts and disbursements of the Duchy of Cornwall in the year ended December, 1888, was published on Saturday. The receipts for the year amounted to £27,082 19s. 14d., out of which payments were made to his Royal Highness's use amounting to £55,252 2s. 1d.

MR. WALKER, the British Consul at Charleston, warns shipmasters that the charts of that port published by the Admiralty, corrected to March last, are very inaccurate. The errors have been pointed out for correction, and masters trading to Charleston should supply themselves with Admiralty charts of a date subsequent to "III. 68."

SIR HARCOURT JOHNSTONE, BART., of Hackness Grange, has been elected without opposition as one of the representatives of Scarborough, in place of his father, the late Sir J. V. B. Johnstone, who died a week or two ago. At the general election Sir Harcourt Johnstone unsuccessfully contested Thirsk against Sir William Payne Gallwey, the sitting member.

THE NEW CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE has appointed Inspector Thomson, of Scotland-yard, superintendent of the E and F divisions of Metropolitan Police. Inspector Manson, of the E division, has been transferred to the Y division, vice Inspector Webb, pensioned; and Superintendent Durkin, of Bow-street, has retired.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS visited the studio of Mr. W. H. Plimridge, 158, Regent-street, on Tuesday, and sat for a series of photographic portraits.

THE REFORM LEAGUE is dissolved. This resolution was come to at a meeting of the general council and metropolitan delegates last Saturday evening, on the ground that, the objects of the original programme having been substantially accomplished, no further agitation can be usefully carried on. The League had been in existence nearly four years, having been established in May, 1885.

COLD has recently been very severe throughout Italy. Instead of the spring weather which might be expected at this time of year, there is rain, snow, and nipping wind, exactly as in the middle of winter. In Genoa, Florence, Turin, Venice, Milan, Modena, and Naples the same complaint is heard; and in some cases furs are said to be an insufficient protection against the unusual cold.

THE PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY have received a telegram from Lisbon stating that the steamer Santiago, from Valparaiso for Liverpool, has struck on a rock in the Strait of Magellan, and has been totally lost. All lives were saved except one sailor, a steward, and a child. The Santiago was a comparatively new steamer, of 2000 tons, and was nearly fully insured.

A BILL brought in by Mr. H. B. Sheridan and Mr. Gourley proposes that owners of houses be permitted to pay the poor rates, or compound for the paying of them; that this payment shall not affect the right of the occupiers to vote at Parliamentary elections; and that such portions of the Reform Act of 1867 as are inconsistent with these proposals should be repealed.

AN EXTENSIVE STRIKE in the COTTON TRADE has commenced at Preston. The operatives, who appear to be largely supported by their fellow-workmen in Lancashire, have decided to resist the proposed reduction of 10 per cent in their wages; and the employers, at a meeting held on Monday, resolved to adhere to the notices which have been posted at their works.

THE TRINITY BOARD have entered into a contract with a French firm to supply and work the granite of a lighthouse, to be constructed on a rock near the present Longships, off Land's End. The new lighthouse will embrace all the modern improvements, and will, when completed, supersede the Longships. The Elder Brethren, it is said, have gone to France with the contract in consequence of the high price asked by English firms. The work will be commenced immediately.

A HUGE GRANITE ROCK, extensively known as "the Tolmen," in the parish of Constantine, Cornwall, was destroyed during the past week. The famous block was oval in shape and weighed about 800 tons; it was 23 ft. long, 14 ft. high, and 19 ft. in breadth. It rested on the point of two detached rocks, and underneath it was a free passage. During the past week one of the supporting rocks was blown down, and the Tolmen fell into a quarry, a distance of 40 ft.

A SCULLERS' MATCH for £100 a side was sculled, on Monday afternoon, from Putney to Mortlake, between Mark Addy, of Manchester, and W. Sadler, of Putney. The north-countryman was a strong favourite at starting, at odds of 7 to 4, and, taking the lead from the first, he quickly cleared Sadler, leading by two lengths at the London Club Boathouse, three at Craven Cottage, and four at Hammersmith. Thence, maintaining his advantage, he reached the Ship a very easy winner by several lengths, his opponent being completely overmatched.

MR. GLADSTONE received two deputations on Tuesday—one from the Lord's Day Rest Association, against the opening of museums and picture galleries on Sundays; and the other, which immediately followed it, praying him to use his influence to have such institutions opened. Mr. Gladstone told both deputations, in effect, that the subject was one less for the Government than for the public to deal with, but that it would now receive the careful consideration of Government.

THE LOUNGER.

FOR many years Captain Sprye, an old experienced officer of the Indian army, has been agitating—stirring heaven and earth, as we say—spending his money and time, to get a railway made from Rangoon across the north-eastern frontier of British Burmah and the Shan State to Kiang-Hung, on the right bank of the Upper Kamboja river, in order to open up a trade for British merchants between the port of Rangoon and Western China. Forty-six memorials from British chambers of commerce, &c., have been presented to different Ministers, a vast amount of correspondence has passed to and fro, the feasibility and advantage of the project has been generally acknowledged, but the Indian Government has always stopped the way. "It could not be done, or, if it could, it is too expensive to do it," &c., after the manner of Governments generally, and Indian Governments especially. At last Lord Cranborne, with the clear vision characteristic of him, saw the desirability of carrying out the scheme; and, with equally characteristic promptitude, in spite of opposition active or passive in India, ordered a survey, to the great joy of the memorialists and Captain Sprye; and the survey was begun. His Lordship's reign was but short, unhappily, on many accounts; and Sir Stafford Northcote, as soon as he got to the India Office, telegraphed to stop the survey and recall the surveyors. Luckily, however, he soon went his way; and now the Duke of Argyll and Mr. Grant Duff are there, and authentic rumour says that the survey is to be forthwith resumed.

The division on the second reading of the Irish Church Bill is to come off on Tuesday night—or, rather, on Wednesday morning. This being accomplished, the House will adjourn for the Easter holidays till Thursday, April 1. The whips calculate upon 120 majority for the bill. The debate must of necessity be a somewhat one-sided affair. Of course, Disraeli will make a grand speech against the bill. Confiscation will be the key-note of his harangue. He must do it, as that way lies the only path open to him now, though shrewd suspicion says that he would much rather be the leader against the Church than its defender. Mr. Hardy will, as lieutenant-general, speak, and no doubt he is in earnest. Well, he and Disraeli having spoken, who else is there on that side to maintain the fight? Lord Stanley? Questionable. At all events, he will not be very enthusiastic, we may be sure. Mr. Staveley Hill, the new member for Coventry, almost the only lawyer of note left to the party, will, doubtless, improve the occasion; and then, who else is there? Echo answers, Who? Not for a century and more—never, I think, before—has the Conservative party been so destitute of orators as it is now; whilst on the other side their name is legion. Every night some new and unknown man jumps up and startles the House; and now Mr. Edward Miall has reappeared on the scene. He, perhaps, more than any living man, has educated the Liberals of England upon this subject. Mr. Miall has been out of Parliament nearly twelve years. Just before he left, in a speech of great ability, he led a forlorn-hope against the Irish Establishment, but with no success. He was listened to, and that was all. Neither the hour nor the man was come. Now he returns, not so much to fight as to join in the shout of victory. The opinion that the Lords will pass the bill gathers strength. Rumour says the Bishops won't fight, a council of Archbishops, wise in their generation, having advised this policy. "If the Church is to be disestablished and disendowed," say they, "and all auguries say it must, be it so, then; we shall never get better terms than those which are now offered. By delaying the catastrophe it may come down upon us with still more ruinous effect." And so rumour says their spiritual lordships, the "second estate," will protest and retire. "Pretty thing, this, that you are going to do just before the festival of Easter," said a Conservative to a Liberal. "Very proper," was the reply; "the Jews, in preparation for their festivals, were always commanded to put away strange gods."

I have called the bishops "spiritual lords," and this is really their title. Gladstone, in his speech upon the Irish Church, called them "peers." He was wrong. They are not peers proper, but spiritual lords called to Parliament. Bishops have not all the privileges of peers. For example: It is an Englishman's privilege to be tried by his "peers" if he be suspected of crime—that is, by his equals. Well, the peer proper in Parliament charged with crime is tried by the House of Lords; but a bishop by a judge and jury, in a criminal court. Judges are sometimes called to Parliament to advise; but this does not constitute them peers. Bishops are called to advise and vote; but this does not make them peers.

It can be no secret that the artist who draws those clever grotesque portraits which appear in *Vanity Fair* is Signor Pellegrini. He is a member of a noble and ancient Italian family. His mother is a Medici. The Signor was once wealthy, but he has prematurely spent his wealth, and now has to utilise his singular talents for a livelihood.

The drawings and pictures left by the late H. W. Phillips are now on view at the rooms of the Cosmopolitan Club, Charles-street, Berkeley-square, preliminary to their being offered for sale at Messrs. Christie's auction-rooms in April.

The flower-show season has now commenced, and on Saturday last the first spring exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society was held in the gardens at South Kensington. Such a collection of hyacinths, cyclamens, roses, and other spring flowers, has never before been seen under the society's auspices. The Dutch growers gave supplemental prizes amounting to £45, which caused a very keen competition amongst the various exhibitors. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge visited the show in the afternoon. There was also a very large and fashionable attendance, though the weather was anything but propitious. Some of the flowers shown remained in the gardens during the week, while other collections were removed to the Crystal Palace, where, I believe, they may still be seen. The Royal Botanic Society has also been holding its first spring show this week in the gardens in Regent's Park; and a very fine show it was. Royalty, in the persons of the Duchess of Cambridge and Prince and Princess Teck, graced the exhibition by its presence; and a most successful commencement of the season was made.

I see by a statement made at the annual meeting of the Asylum for Fatherless Children that there are at present 266 children in the institution, and that the annual expenditure is £8000. This is at the rate of a little over £30 a year, or about 11s. 6d. a week, for each child: surely a somewhat high figure. At that rate, it is decidedly better to be a "fatherless child" than the offspring of an agricultural labourer—a class of men who, in many parts of England, do not have more, if so much, with which to maintain a whole family, including husband, wife, and three or four children. I fear there is either some mistake in the figures given, or some abuse in the management of the institution; and would recommend Mr. Charles Reed and others of its friends to look into the matter.

I have just received my copy of the new issue of *Debrett's Illustrated House of Commons and the Judicial Bench* for 1889, and in it I find much special information. I say this without intending any disparagement to "Dod," or other publications of a like kind. For one thing, we have here, in order to make the book complete as a Parliamentary register, a list of members of the House of Peers, together with the names of their heirs apparent or presumptive, and their residences and clubs, so that the work is in some sense a peerage as well as a record of the composition of the People's Chamber. Then the judicial division—compiled from information communicated by the Judges of Great Britain and Ireland, the Judges of the county courts, and the Recorders—contains particulars not to be found, so far as I know, in any other single publication. Then there is a list of "Some Parliamentary Expressions and Practices" which supplies information that may be useful to general readers, particularly as it embodies many of the clauses of the last "Representation of the People Act" which refer to voters, voting, and registration. Perhaps the most novel feature of this issue of *Debrett's House of Commons*, however, is the appended list of election expenses, so far as published at the time of printing, which it is to be regretted is not complete. The figures here given furnish some curious facts for consideration in reference to purity of election, and for that

reason I select a few specimens. Thus we find that in South Ayrshire the successful candidate, Sir D. Wedderburn, spent £2511 13s. 1d., whereas Colonel Alexander disbursed no less than £1058 19s. 7d. At Bradford, Messrs. Forster and Miall incurred a joint expense of £3397, while Mr. Ripley (afterwards unseated on petition) alone spent £7211, so that his brief tenure of the position of M.P. must have been a rather costly affair, seeing that, in addition to the above sum, he had to pay the costs of the judicial inquiry. At the Marquis of Bute's borough of Cardiff, Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, who won, spent £2917 18s. 8d., against the outlay of Mr. Giffard, who lost, amounting to nearly double—namely, £4796 10s. 8d. In Dublin the costs of Sir Arthur Guinness are estimated at the enormous sum of £16,000, for which, as it could not have been spent legitimately, he justly incurred the penalty of being unseated. In North Durham Mr. G. Elliott spent no less than £15,302 10s. 7d., while Sir H. Williamson and Mr. J. L. Bell together disbursed £11,703 11s. 8d.; so that over that one contest upwards of £27,000 was squandered, out of which there must have been very pretty pickings for somebody. In striking contrast with this is West Cumberland, where Mr. Lowther and Mr. Wyndham gained their senatorial honours at the trifling joint cost of £73. South Durham seems a rather expensive region; for Messrs. Beaumont and Pease, who were returned, spent £5381 5s. 1d.; and Messrs. Surtees and Russell (rejected), £5686 18s. 7d. In Glasgow, the three Liberals who were elected—Messrs. Dalglish, Graham, and Anderson—spent less (£4358 11s. 8d.) than the one Conservative—Sir G. J. Campbell—who was rejected, his expenses having reached the respectable sum of £5113 18s. 8d. West Gloucestershire, again, seems a costly constituency, for the three candidates who stood spent among them £13,929 19s. 9d., or nearly one pound per vote (not voters, observe, for the register only shows 11,463, of whom, of course, many divided their favours). In the city of London, the four Liberals, of whom three were elected, spent among them £11,033 11s. 11d.; while the three Conservatives, only one of whom was chosen, overtopped their opponents by £1005 0s. 1d., having laid out £12,038 12s. In Manchester, Messrs. Bazley, Bright, and Jones (two of whom were successful) spent £2702 10s. 10d. among them, Messrs. Hoare and Birley (one winning), £2790 13s. 10d., and Mr. Mitchell Henry, who was nowhere, £7103 8s. 7d. In Sunderland the return of Mr. E. T. Gourlay cost £1652, while his colleague, Mr. Candlish, got in for £410, so that it would seem the contest here lay between Mr. Gourlay and Mr. T. C. Thompson, the latter of whom spent £3321 3s. 6d. I might go on to almost any extent quoting these suggestive figures and still more suggestive contrasts; but I will only adduce one instance more, which is, perhaps, the most suggestive of all. In Westminster, Messrs. Grosvenor and Mill spent only £2926 2s. 7d., while Mr. W. H. Smith disbursed £8909 17s. 7d.; from which fact it would appear that the Conservative candidate's "boards" were rather expensive articles after all, or else some other thing was—whatever that other thing may have been.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Mr. Charles Reade's story in the *Cornhill* takes for its motto a bit of Horace:—"I will frame a work of fiction upon notorious fact, so that anybody shall think he can do the same; shall labour and toil, attempting the same, and fail—such is the power of sequence and connection in writing." The fact is, this is to be a story of Trades Unions, and it will be interesting to watch the manner in which Mr. Charles Reade gets over the notorious difficulty of founding a novel upon recent facts. He has done it before, and he will be sure to do it again; and, indeed, "Put Yourself in His Place" opens well. The remainder of the number, including articles on "Railway Signalling" and "Military Administration," is very good. In a paper on "Travelling in America," the able writer maintains what is, I think, true, that with people who go to that country "the eye sees what it brings with it" (according to the old familiar rule); that the Tory comes back to England more a Tory than ever, and the Radical more a Radical than ever; in fact, that to go there is not a cure for democratic tendencies.

Macmillan contains, among other things, another paper by Mr. Francis Galton, on "Hereditary Genius;" but, though I have no doubt mental power and what we endeavour to indicate by the word "ability" do very often descend, and in right lines too, I do not think the case is so clear with regard to genius. Professor Seeley contributes a paper on "Milton's Poetry," which is still better than his paper on Milton's Prose; but he is certainly wide of the mark in saying that Milton's "pictures will always, if examined, be found to be curiously distinct," and that, "whether his scene be the abyss itself or the heaven of heavens, he draws always with the same hard, firm, outline." Come, that's a good 'un! Let us take "the abyss" first:—

The other shape,

If shape it might be called, that shape had none.

Everybody knows the passage by heart, and it is certainly a queer case of "hard, firm outline." Take, again, the lines:—

He, above the rest,

In shape and gesture proudly eminent,

Stood like a tower—

and so forth. This, too, is a familiar quotation, and is a striking example of want of outline, winding up, as it does, with the reference to the sun swathed in mist, "with fear of change perplexing monarchs." Now for the other region:—

Who with the majesty of darkness round

Circles his throne.

Again:—

Dark with excessive light thy skirts appear.

Again:—

Attended by ten thousand thousand saints

He onward came: far off his coming shone.

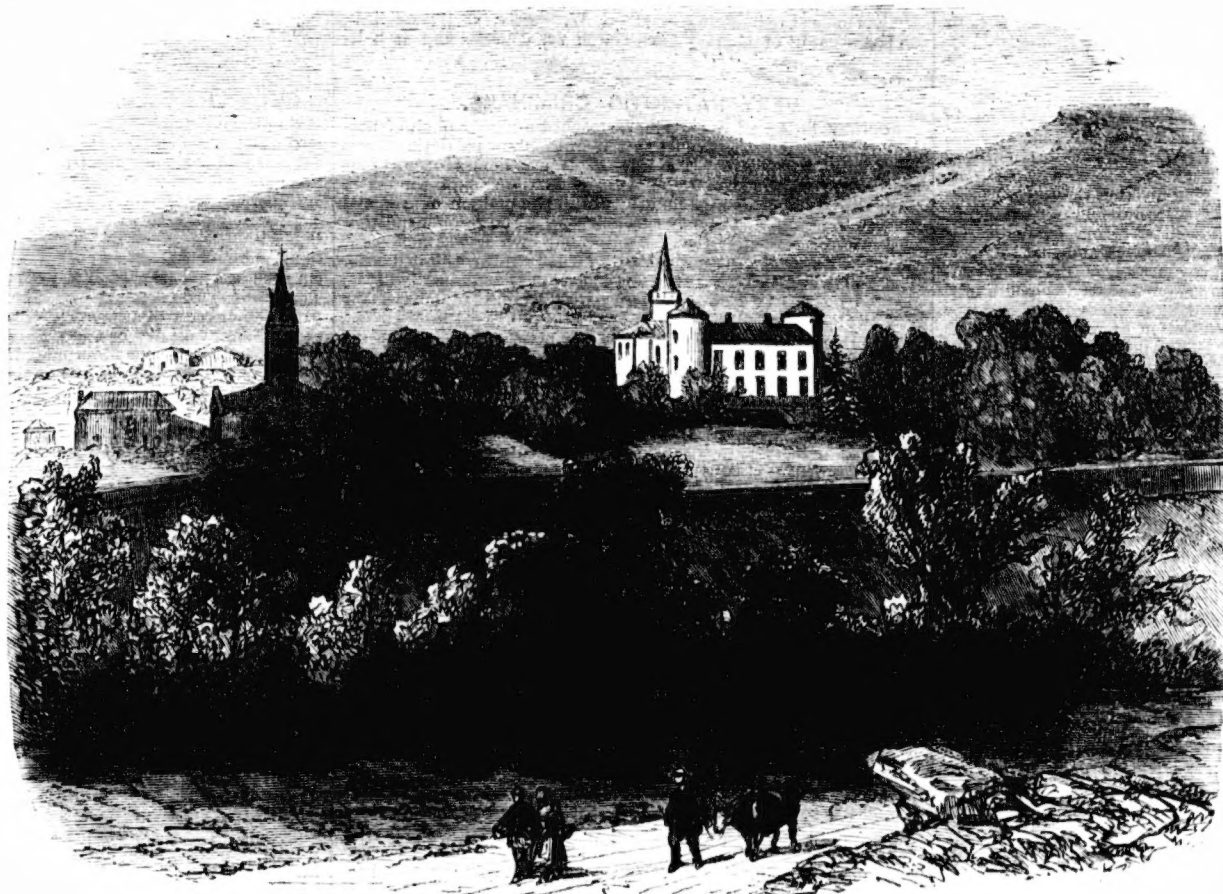
"The retinue of saints and the person of the Messiah himself lost almost and merged," says Wordsworth, "in the splendour of that indefinite abstraction, 'his coming.'" I think this is enough; yet, as a man like Professor Seeley must have some meaning that is at least plausible, one would like to know what it is in this very case. Dean Stanley contributes a most interesting paper on "John Keble," in which he points out how, in his poetry, Keble, for all his medieval dogmatism in other spheres, was always relaxing his hold of that dogmatism. But Dean Stanley, too, is wide of the mark in one sentence. He says, "Who has not felt it hard to recognise the author of the 'Paradise Lost' and of the 'Penseroso' in the polemical treatises on divorce?" &c. Well, I have not, for one; and I would undertake, in ten minutes' talk, book in hand, to induce Dean Stanley to withdraw this question. If the first of the treatises on divorce were put into the hand of a new reader, with only the information that it was written in Milton's time, I will bet anything you like that, if tolerably intelligent, he would guess that Milton wrote it; not only for literary reasons, but because the "polemic" vein is similar in the "Paradise" and in the treatises (for Milton is often a polemic in his great poem, and so much the worse for the poem!). I ought to include the "Colasterion" in my challenge, but I had forgotten it for the moment.

I have received the "compressed score" edition of the Weigh-House Tune-Book (Hodder and Staughton). Its title, by-the-by, is simply "Congregational Church Music." The printing and get-up are very nice, and in many respects it pleases me more than either Novello's "Psalmist" or the Norwich Tune-Book. While it excludes ranting "repeats," it does not fanatically stick to the "one-note-to-one-word" rule; and it contains numerous chants and some long pieces. It has the merit of retaining some of the dear old chords that in the "Psalmist" are rejected—for instance, the old-fashioned minor close in the third strain of "St. Ann's," to miss which would be quite a shock. The close of the first strain in "Norway" is new to me, and I don't like it at all; I prefer that the strain should end on F in the soprano. By-the-way, why are

retreat; but in the last years of his life necessity compelled him to sell all of them but thirteen, which still remain, and among them is one known as "The Tree of Jocelyn," for it was under its shade that he composed that poem. Of the residences of which we have spoken, Saint Point will be the most attractive, for it was there that the poet composed the greater part of his works and received his friends in the time of his highest fame. It was here, too, that he built his tomb; and when his fading fortunes cast a subdued light, if not an absolute gloom, over the last years of his life, it was here that he received the friends who still remained to him. Opposite the church, and in that part of the grounds which adjoins the village cemetery, he had built a little chapel, and bequeathed it to the community; and in this is to be seen the tomb which already contained the mortal remains of his wife and daughter. The inscription on the little chapel is "Speravit anima mea."

WOOD PURVEYORS TO A TYROLESE SCHOOL.

WHAT a wonderful country is that amidst the great mountains where the people, happy in the presence of what we should deem constant perils, and blithe in their constant acquaintance with those experiences that would be called hardships by a softer race, are at once cheerful and determined, free and humble, daring and pious! On entering the Tyrol from Switzerland, says an experienced traveller, it is probable that the first sight of its scenery may disappoint the wayfarer, but in its inhabitants he cannot fail to see a change for the better. The noble character of the Tyrolese is as marked as his open countenance and upright carriage. It is not, however, on high roads or beaten paths that he is seen to the greatest advantage; let the traveller penetrate into the remote valleys of the German Tyrol and ascend to the high pastures, he will there find poverty free from selfishness, and laborious perseverance without discontent. It is from one of these more remote villages that our illustration is taken; and it represents a scene not very often witnessed by the ordinary traveller, since it belongs mostly to the winter life of the people, whose fuel, as well as other necessities, has often to be collected or brought from some distance with very considerable labour. The pupils of the schools, however, take care that their chimney shall be kept smoking; and therefore to the daily journey is added the duty of collecting faggots on the way, or even of going out of the way for the same purpose, or of adding to the general stock by such con-



THE RESIDENCE OF LAMARTINE AT SAINT POINT, FROM THE MAÇON ROAD.

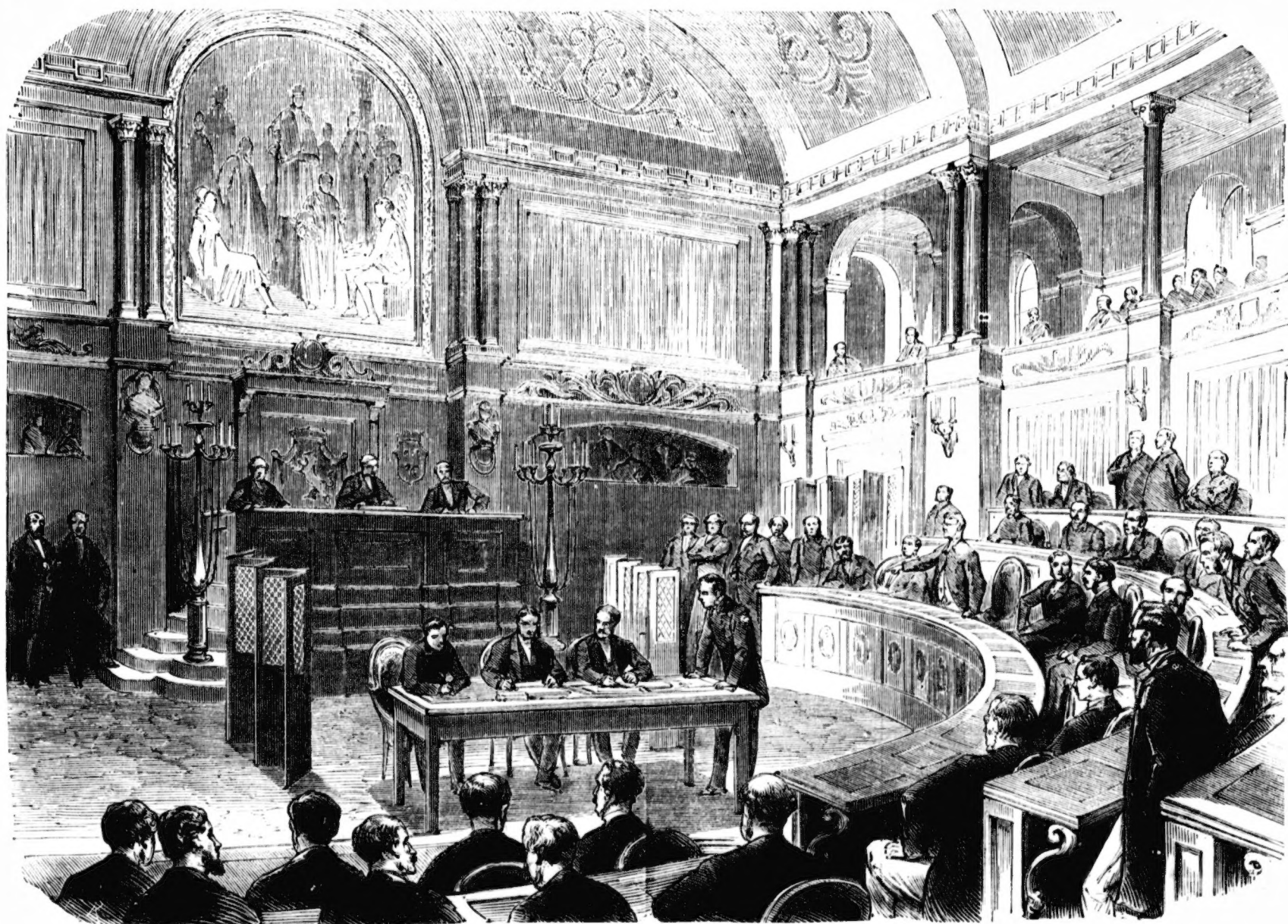
tributions as may be obtained from friends and acquaintances. Of course those lucky urchins who possess a wooden sledge, rudely put together for their journey down the snowy declivities, are able to provide most amply, since they can pile up quite a stack of sticks, and one of them may ride triumphantly on the top of the load; but others carry their portions as best they may, all contributing something, though it be but a bare bough or a faggot of twigs. These proceedings of the schoolboys are illustrative of the only method by which the people in the Tyrol could get through their winter cheerily. It is by mutual help and kindness that they keep fresh as their own unfading flowers the bond of the common love to country and to ties of family and religion; and, though rude in some of their customs and not yet thoroughly civilised in a few of their sports, they still afford a fine example of a free and simple-hearted people, capable of the noblest self-sacrifice and the most sincere devotion.

A DEBATE IN THE BELGIAN SENATE.

As our readers know, there has lately been in Paris a sort of storm in a teacup—which, however, might easily have developed

into a veritable oceanic hurricane—about a bill passed by the Parliament of Belgium forbidding Belgian railway companies to sell or lease their lines to foreigners; and believed by a section of the Paris press to be specially designed to prevent French companies, and through them the French Government, from obtaining control over Belgian railways. This measure, it was alleged by the semi-official journals of Paris, was adopted at the instigation of Prussia, and had therefore a political significance specially irritating to France, under the ticklish relations and national jealousies that obtain between the two Powers. Great was the indignation expressed, and fervent the denunciations uttered, against the small neutral State for thus daring to indicate distrust of the Grand Nation, or presuming to interpose any barrier between it and whatever designs its rulers might or might not entertain in reference to possible hostilities with Germany. We are glad to state, however, that the storm has apparently passed over, that the question has been withdrawn from the excited region of popular feeling to that of diplomacy, and that the matter has resolved itself into one of adjustment of tolls and regulation of traffic. Such, at least, is stated to be the latest phase of the question, though the political atmosphere is still not altogether clear. The Paris *Constitutionnel* of Wednesday announced that the French and Belgian Governments had agreed upon a settlement of the dispute between the two Powers which would be satisfactory to the interests of all concerned. The *Indépendance Belge*—a much better authority—says, however, that an agreement has been arrived at only on certain points. It adds that there is reason to hope means will be found before the end of the week to reconcile the views of the two Governments.

Though the special point of interest attaching to the incident depicted in our Engraving—a debate in the Belgian Senate on the above-mentioned bill—has thus to some degree passed away, still the illustration is of value, as showing the style in which debates are conducted in one of the best-managed Parliaments of the Continent. The members' benches, or chairs, as will be seen, are arranged in a circle, facing the seat of the President, who wears neither wig nor gown, nor is envied by any of the awe-inspiring symbols of authority that distinguish our Lord Chancellor or Speaker of the House of Commons. The members, however, follow the English rule of speaking from their ordinary places, and not from a tribune, as is the practice in the French Chambers.



A DISCUSSION IN THE BELGIAN SENATE ON THE RAILWAY BILL.

In other respects, the system of conducting business is modelled very much on that which obtains in England, as, indeed, is the Constitution generally that was adopted when the Belgians declared their independence and chose the sage Leopold I. for their King.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE union of the two operas is the most important fact in musical history—we mean London musical history—that we have had to record for some time past. The *Daily News*, instructed by Mr. Hargrave Jennings, gave publicity last week to a report that the projected arrangements for bringing together the forces of the two establishments had not been and scarcely could be carried out. Thereupon Mr. Mapleson addressed a letter to our contemporary saying that the union was an accomplished fact, and that the performances for the season would commence, as originally announced, at the Royal Italian Opera, on Tuesday, the 30th inst. In the meanwhile we are told that great progress is being made with Her Majesty's Theatre, the completion of which is promised for the 20th of next month. The united managers will end, no doubt, by opening both theatres; but as to their ultimate intentions no announcement has yet been put forth. That it must always be a difficult matter to ensure the success of two Italian Operas in London we readily admit; but that the experiment of a second Italian Opera will be tried again and again seems to us equally certain. Meanwhile, the programme issued by the joint management offers unusual attractions, as regards both performers and the operas available from the combined répertoires of the two houses.

A new and special interest has been given to the admirable Saturday concerts at the Crystal Palace by the performance of Mendelssohn's first opera—a production of his youth, commenced when he was eleven years old!—entitled "The Marriage of Canacho." All the critics are in raptures with the work, which we have not yet had an opportunity of hearing. Unbelievers will ask what great composition could come from a boy of eleven, though the opera in question was only begun when Mendelssohn was at that age, and was not finished until he was seventeen. In the other arts much is not done even at the age of seventeen. But there is the work! It exists, and competent judges cannot find too laudatory terms in which to express their opinion of it.

On Wednesday evening Miss Berry-Greening gave her fourth annual Irish ballad concert at St. James's Hall, and it attracted a large audience. The vocal selections were chiefly from Moore's Melodies, with others by Lady Dufferin, Lover, Crouch, and Molloy. The fair bénéficiaire was ably assisted in the vocal part by Messdames Rudersdorff and Patey-Whytock, Miss E. Kingsley, Messrs. Cumming and Patey, and others—the above-named being encored. The programme was varied by some melodies sung by the Quaver Glee Union, and by solos on the piano and the violin by Mr. J. F. Barnett and Mr. Viotti Collins—the latter executing Viennese's solo on Irish airs with considerable ability. Messrs. Benedict and Ganz were the conductors. The concert, as a whole, went off with élan.

In Hector Berlioz, whose death was announced last week, the artistic world has lost one of the most original and widely-known, if not most successful, composers of the present time. The symphonies, cantatas, and operas of Berlioz have been much discussed in France, much applauded in Germany, and applauded most of all in Russia, while they have left very little impression in England; and in Italy, where they could scarcely be liked, they are all but unknown. His works have excited a great deal of enthusiasm and not a little ridicule. His qualities being eminently personal, and his personality eminently eccentric, it was impossible he could found a school, though a place may be assigned to him, and a high one, among the composers of the period who have made strenuous, frantic, and, as most persons think, unavailing attempts to extend the limits of musical extremes. Given a thoroughly well-known story, Berlioz would tell it in music so clearly that, if you only followed with sufficient attention the programme of scenes and incidents supplied to intending hearers, you could actually understand what it all meant. These descriptive and narrative composers are most successful when, in setting their indispensable programmes to music, they come to a march or a dance, which cannot fail to suggest marching and dancing. Fortunately, too, they all wander now and then from their programmes, special and general; and Berlioz often wrote admirable music when he was not thinking of his own theories. We were saying that he founded no school; but he had a great admirer in Liszt, who was afterwards to become a still greater admirer of Herr Wagner; and Paganini, when Berlioz was quite a young man, had such a belief in his future that he sent him 20,000fr. to enable him to complete his musical education. Berlioz was the son of a physician, and was himself intended for the medical profession; but he neglected the study of medicine for that of music from the beginning. The irritated father cut off his supplies, and the young Hector, for the sake of a living and to enable himself to pay his fees at the Conservatoire, took an engagement as chorus-singer at the Gymnase Theatre. One can understand the sort of feeling with which the classical Cherubini, then the director of the Conservatoire, must have regarded his impetuous pupil, who wished to compose before he had learned the rules of composition—who, in fact, proclaimed his disdain for rules of all kinds. Neither public nor professors applauded Berlioz's first important work—a mass which was executed at the Church of St. Roch, and afterwards at that of St. Eustache, and which was generally declared to be unintelligible. Want of simplicity is, indeed, the inevitable characteristic of music which aims at expressing more than music possibly can express. The more it strives to make things clear, the more obscure it necessarily becomes. In 1828 Berlioz, then in his twenty-sixth year, produced an overture on the subject of "Waverley," and a fantastic symphony in five volumes—or parts—called "Episode in the Life of an Artist." The young man's heretical opinions in connection with music did not prevent his gaining the first prize at the Conservatoire, in 1830, for a cantata, called, "Sardanapalus." As prize scholar he visited Rome, stayed there the allotted time, and brought back with him, in 1834, an overture and a symphony, called, respectively, "King Lear" and the "Return to Life." In 1838 he appealed to the general public in an opera, "Benvenuto Cellini," which was produced at the Académie. The appeal was not successful; not, at least, in Paris, nor in London, where "Benvenuto Cellini" was brought out a good many years afterwards at the Royal Italian Opera. "Romeo and Juliet" and the "Carnival at Rome" ("dramatic symphonies") followed "Benvenuto." In 1846 the "Damnation of Faust" was produced at the Opéra Comique. It caused much astonishment, some admiration, and downright enthusiasm on the part of a few. It was far better received in Germany, and in Vienna, above all, was accepted as a work of true power. Berlioz had helped to prepare the libretto of this work; and he wrote the whole of the libretto of his next, "Les Troyens," which may be described as a classical-romantic work—classical by the subject, romantic by the treatment. The incidents and scenes are from the *Æneid*; the chief characters are Dido and Æneas. This Virgilian opera, in five acts, was not appreciated—perhaps not understood—by the public of the Théâtre Lyrique, and, after twenty-one representations, was withdrawn. A symphonic interlude, describing the outbreak of a storm and the retirement of Dido and Æneas into the cave; a characteristic dance of Nubian slaves to what the composer considered appropriate music; a Carthaginian solo on the bass-horn; and a ballad in the "Hypomixolydian mode," for a Carthaginian sailor, were the features in the work to which M. Berlioz's numerous hostile critics particularly objected. Berlioz, who, like Schumann and Wagner, was as much a critic as a composer, and who will long be known by his musical criticisms, whatever may be the fate of his musical compositions, seems to have laid down his pen after the failure of "Les Troyens." He, at least, wrote no more for the *Journal des Débats*, in which for years his musical feuilleton had formed a striking feature. He perhaps occupied himself with his *Memoirs*, which will be looked forward to with great interest, and

which are left complete and ready for publication in the hands of his executors.

"The Messiah" will be performed by the National Choral Union, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin, at Exeter Hall, on the evening of Monday next, March 22, commencing at half-past seven.

VERY PATRIOTIC CRIMINALS.

SOCIETY in America must have reached a higher pitch of perfection than the most friendly visitors or the most patriotic natives have fully recognised. Its very goals are homes of virtuous sentiment; and its prisoners are apparently the salt of the earth. They discuss questions of humanity with the union of a Social Science Congress, and occupy themselves with the recommendation of great reforms after the fashion of our own Law Amendment Society. Naturally, they are interested chiefly in the criminal code. The following extract from an American newspaper will be perused on this side of the Atlantic with feelings of amazement and awe:—

The prisoners in the Thomaston State prison have held a meeting in the chapel, with the permission of the warden, to consider the question of capital punishment. The officers of the meeting were all men who are lying in the prison under sentence of death for murder, the president being George Knight, who was convicted of an atrocious crime. The following resolution was passed, and a committee of two, both convicted of capital crimes, was commissioned to lay it before the Legislature, if the warden will allow them to go to Augusta:—"Resolved.—That we appeal to the humane Christian citizens and legislators of the State in behalf of society itself—society which is brutalised and made a breeder of criminals by its infliction of punishments which are vindictive—not to go back a quarter of a century, and re-establish this relic of barbarism, the gallows; not to go back to incurring the ever-impending danger of shedding the blood of innocent men—to statutes which statistics show have a tendency to increase crime and make the members of society less secure in their persons and property. We ask this because it is not so much Harris we would save from ignominy as the State."

"The officers of the meeting, all of them men who are lying in the prison under sentence of death for murder," would doubtless disclaim any personal feeling on the subject of their resolution. "It is not so much Harris they would save from ignominy as the State," whose honour is dear to them, and whose peace and well-being, like true patriots, they have so nobly consulted. The naïveté with which these saints in prison attribute their indiscretions—by implication, at least—not, as is the custom in England, to habits of drinking or Sabbath-breaking, but to capital punishment, is very refreshing. We are not told whether "the committee of two, both convicted of capital crimes," who were commissioned by the meeting to lay the resolution of their fellows before the Legislature of Maine, have been allowed by the warden to go to Augusta on this errand. If they have received this permission, and should their embassy unhappily fail, they will doubtless imitate the heroic fidelity of Regulus, and return to certain punishment. To parody the line of the Roman poet, "Iliacos intra muros peccatur et extra," and to say that there is sin within as well as without the walls of Thomaston State prison would be to do an injustice to the blameless men therein confined. They have their consolation, let us hope, in the sentiment of the imprisoned poet:—

Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds innocent and holy take
That for a hermitage.

As to the substance of their petition, the State Legislature of Maine may do worse than borrow the happy retort of the French wit:—"Abolish capital punishment? By all means; but let *Messieurs les Assassins* set the example."—*Daily News*.

A LADY SUED FOR BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

AT the assizes held at Aylesbury last Saturday, before Mr. Baron Pigott, the cause "Eden v. Ormond" was heard. Mr. Merewether and Mr. Abdy were for the plaintiff; Mr. Metcalfe for the defendant. Mr. Merewether, in opening the case, said he was sorry to say that there was not an atom of romance in it. Usually the plaintiff in such cases was of the "gentler sex," but in this case the plaintiff was a widower of the mature age of sixty, and the defendant was a widow who had passed the age described by the late Prince Regent as a "very nice age for a woman," but who was possessed of about £700 a year, and who lived at Reading under the care (to use a very mild expression) of a Mrs. Todd, to whose "Caledonian acuteness" the learned counsel attributed the frustration of the plaintiff's hopes. The parties met in the first instance at Wargrave Regatta, and the defendant, who was accompanied by a Mrs. Best, who seemed to act as "gooseberry picker" throughout the affair, drove the plaintiff back to Twyford station in her carriage, and to Reading, on the following Sunday, not, however, coming to Mrs. Todd's, but enjoying a walk in the "grove." The courtship continued, with the usual attendant circumstances: they made excursions to various places, among which an excursion to Oxford seems to have made an impression on the defendant's mind. In one of her letters the lady said she should "never forget the fun they had in the dark staircase" leading to "Old Tom." On Sept. 28, 1868, the defendant signed a guarantee for the rent and taxes of a house in Oxford-road, Reading, taken by the plaintiff, "for our joint occupation." On Oct. 11, the negotiation having fallen through, she writes, "Dear John, all is well; it was useless writing before I could see another house." And on the 15th of the same month she wrote, "Sir, your letter of yesterday has very much astonished me, as you must well know I never on any occasion gave you the slightest reason to suppose I ever intended to contract a marriage with you, as I never looked on you in that way. Your position in life is by no means in a station suitable to my own. This is the only and last reply I intend to give you. I return your carte, and will thank you to return my letters by return, as I never wish to meet.—JANE ORMOND." With corresponding precipitation on the other side, the writ in the action was issued in November. The only witness called was Mrs. Pimm, the plaintiff's landlady at Slough, who proved that the defendant was introduced to her as Mr. Eden's "intended." The cross examination was directed mainly to the plaintiff's position in life, and it was elicited that he had not paid his rent of 5s. per week for a twelvemonth, that he "went out with a chain," and solicited orders for a brewer, and there was, as the learned counsel said, a "suspicion of manner." It was elicited that he had once endeavoured to borrow money of the plaintiff; but this was promptly refused, the lady observing that in such a case "friendship always ceases." It also transpired that the defendant's brother objected to her marrying any one without an established position, and to her going to Slough to live before being married, in any case. The jury (a common jury) returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £300.

THE RAILWAY AUTHORITIES have decided on a plan for the conveyance of the volunteers to and from Dover on Easter Monday, which, it is believed, will obviate the necessity for any interference with the ordinary traffic. On the Monday, or on previous days, under certain restrictions, volunteers in uniform may make the journey at the rate of 1s. 6d. for the rank and file and 3s. for officers. Neither guns nor horses will be conveyed on the day of the review.

RAMSGATE HARBOUR.—The administration of Ramsgate harbour has been the subject of many official and unofficial complaints, preferred by owners and masters of vessels, during the recent gales. It appears that the situation of Ramsgate as a harbour of refuge is eminently useful in the case of all vessels compelled by stress of weather to run to the Downs; that, as frequently happens, many vessels collect there; that collisions are frequent; but that, in consequence of the high dunes chargeable on all vessels remaining more than forty-eight hours in Ramsgate harbour, small craft avoid entering on the score of expense, and endeavour to make for Dover or some other port, often incurring great risk to life and property. It appears, moreover, that in spite of the remedies adopted, the inner harbour is silting up, and does not fulfil the purpose for which it was originally intended. It is surely the duty of the Board of Trade to look into the matter.—*Full Mail Gazette*.

BABY FARMING.

AT the ordinary meeting of the Social Science Association, on Monday evening—Dr. Farr, F.R.S., presiding—a paper was read by Mr. J. B. Curgven on the subject of "Baby Farming and the Registration of Nurses." Notwithstanding that all interested in the matter were invited, not more than a dozen persons were present. The paper referred to the practice of a low class of midwives receiving into their houses single women to be confined, taking the child for a fixed sum, or a small weekly payment, too frequently occasioning its death by neglect or ill-treatment. The Jagers and the Winden cases were alluded to by way of illustration; and, after stating that the annual number of illegitimate children born in this country was 50,000, of whom two thirds were put out to nurse to these baby farmers, it urged the duty of State supervision by means of an efficient system of medical registration, and advocated a scheme of colonisation for illegitimate children among the families of the honest, industrious poor. The writer recommended the association to frame a measure to be submitted to Parliament, providing for the registration and supervision of all dry or foster nurses who receive children to take care of, and all persons adopting children for a money consideration. Provision to be made for the registration of the child and the parent or parents, the feeding, medical care (by the union medical officer), vaccination, education at the parish school, and other obviously necessary details. Captain Clode moved that the paper be printed and circulated amongst the members and referred to the standing committee of health, recommending the preparation of a bill embodying the chief points suggested by Mr. Curgven. Mr. Theobald, although agreeing that registration was necessary, thought it wrong to commit the society to all the recommendations of the paper, especially to the inference that all nurses or institutions receiving nurse-children were in a more or less degree criminal. He thought the paper should be simply referred to the committee for consideration. Dr. Rendle considered that one great cause of the number of illegitimate births was the tone of society, which discouraged young men from marrying by exempting them in one way or other from taxes and other pecuniary burdens which married men were necessarily liable to. Child-murder was too often dealt lightly with by our criminal courts, although it was well known that in many instances when a child was intrusted to one of these advertising nurses it was expected it would only live for two or three months. He advocated more stringent regulations for investigating and registering the causes of deaths. The discussion was continued by Dr. Acton and another speaker, who suggested that, to go to the root of the evil, they must alter the bastard laws, so as to make the father of the illegitimate child more directly liable. If the Foundling Hospital carried out the objects for which it was founded, in accordance with its ample means, the existing evil would be reduced to a considerable extent. In the end Mr. Curgven was thanked for his paper, which was referred to the committee.

A SERIOUS EXPLOSION took place on Monday at a fog signal and percussion-cap manufactory at Birmingham. Five young women, who were standing near, were badly injured. It is stated that no less than six explosions have occurred at the same establishment within the last five years.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR AND THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—The following document was published on Saturday in compliance with an address of the House of Commons on the subject:—"Whereas we deem it expedient, in order to prevent any doubts as to the powers and duties of the Commander-in-Chief with respect to the government of our Army and the administration of military affairs, to express our will and pleasure thereon. Now our will and pleasure is that the military command and discipline of our Army and land forces, as likewise the appointments to and promotions in the same, together with all powers relating to the military command and discipline of our army, which, under and by any patent or commission from us, shall have been, or shall from time to time be, committed to, vested in, or regulated by the Commander-in-Chief of our forces, or the General Commanding our forces in chief for the time being, shall be excepted from the department of the Secretary of State for War. And we are further pleased to declare our will and pleasure to be that all powers relating to the matters above shall be exercised, and all business relating thereto shall be transacted, by the Commander-in-Chief of our forces for the time being, and shall be deemed to belong to his office, subject always to our general control over the government of the Army, and to the responsibility of the Secretary of State for the exercise of our royal prerogative in that behalf, and subject to any powers formerly exercised by the Secretary at War. Given at our Court of Balmoral this 11th day of October, 1891, in the 25th year of our reign.—By her Majesty's command."

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—"A Government department of agriculture, presided over by a permanent officer," was voted "desirable" by the central chamber; but the chambers have never been particularly taken up with the proposal—considering, for the most part, that such a department would be a convenience and an advantage in facilitating communication between agriculturists and the Government, rather than a grand institution from which the most hopeful assistance to agriculture must be expected. Mr. Dyke Acland honoured the central chamber by consulting the assembled deputies on the matter before introducing it the same day in the House of Commons; and, though he had not been so confidential as to lay before the chamber the details of his own scheme, he made good use in the House of the "very searching discussion" which he had heard in the "sort of farmers' parliament at the Salisbury Hotel." Responsibility in connection with rural legislation, now scattered between the Home Office, the Privy Council, and the Board of Trade, and the subordinate authorities of the Copyhold and Inclosure Commission, the Cattle Plague Department, the Health Office, the local Government Office, and the Statistical Office Mr. Acland would collect and transfer to a new central department, and this very reasonable proposition commands our hearty approval. But are we quite prepared for assigning to such an office the exalted functions outlined by the honourable member? Mr. Peel, who on making his first speech in Parliament was exceedingly well received, very properly demurred to one suggestion, that a Government *unjour* should decide between valuers in cases of compensation to outgoing tenants. That the Board of Trade might just as well have an agricultural department as it already has commercial, railway, harbour, marine, financial, and statistical departments, was not denied by Mr. Bright; and when Mr. Bruce has completed his rearrangement of the work, and the responsibility of the several departments referred to, it will be for agriculturists to make Mr. Acland's five great subjects or others, not all at once but by degrees, the special business of the coming department for agriculture.—*Chamber of Agriculture Journal*.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN LONDON.—The two bills relating to the government of the metropolis brought in by Mr. Charles Buxton and Mr. Thomas Hughes, the Municipal Corporations (Metropolis) Bill, and the Corporation of London Bill, have been printed. The first bill proposes that the metropolis should be divided into nine municipal boroughs corresponding with the existing Parliamentary boroughs, each with a mayor, aldermen, and council, the latter body to be elected by the persons who are qualified to vote in the election of vestrymen in the metropolitan parishes. The borough councils are to perform the same duties and to possess the same powers as are now exercised by vestries and district boards under the Metropolis Local Management Acts, the property vested in the existing bodies is to be transferred to them, and they are to discharge all existing debts and liabilities, and carry out all existing contracts. The new boroughs are to have justices of the peace, who shall possess the same licensing powers as other borough magistrates, and each borough is to have a salaried police magistrate, the present metropolitan police courts becoming the police courts of the new boroughs, with an additional police court for the borough of Marylebone. The councils are to have power to levy a borough rate, and to build townhalls. The powers of the Metropolitan Police Commissioners are not to be interfered with, and the powers of the Metropolitan Board of Works are not to be abridged by the Act, which also is not to apply to the city of London. The Corporation of London Bill provides for the consolidation of the municipalities proposed to be created by the above bill. The whole of the metropolis is to be made into a county; and the corporation of the City is to become the corporation of the county of London, and the functions of the Board of Works are to be vested in it. The first Common Council of London is to consist of the forty-four members of the Board of Works, forty-two members of the Council of the city of London, and 156 councillors of the several metropolitan boroughs. The first aldermen of London are to be the present aldermen of the City, the mayors of the metropolitan boroughs, and two aldermen to be elected by each borough. The Lord Mayor is to be elected by the Common Council, and is to have the power of appointing a deputy mayor. The sheriff, recorder, and common serjeant are also to be elected by the Common Council. The chairman of the Board of Works is to become chairman of the standing committees of the Common Council. The bill, which extends to 140 clauses, contains very minute provisions respecting the levying of rates, apportionment of county liabilities between London, Middlesex, Surrey, and Kent, compensation for abolition of offices, arbitration of differences, and other matters.

POLICE.

MORE ABOUT MADAME RACHEL.—At Marlborough-street, on Wednesday, Mr. Edward Lewis made an application to Mr. Tyrwhitt with reference to Madame Rachel. It was connected with a totally different matter from that which had recently been made the subject of discussion at that court. After the trial of Madame Rachel a writ of error was obtained raising certain points as to the lawful constitution of the Court, and Madame Rachel was liberated on bail, two sureties of £1000 each, until the question at issue was decided. The bail were Mr. Stack and Mr. Salomons, who are each responsible for £1000. For some days past the town has been placarded with bills announcing a sale of Madame Rachel's effects, in all probability to enable her to leave the country. The bail, Mr. Stack in particular, in consequence, wished to compel Madame Rachel to surrender to her bail, and to effect that object they wished to have the assistance of the police. The applicant had brought with him Inspector Morgan, who would render assistance provided he was sure he had power to do so. It appeared from Archbold, page 79, that persons who had been bail for any defendant might discharge themselves by taking and surrendering him before the Court or magistrate by whom he had been bailed, and by whom the defendant would be committed to prison. All the applicant asked was that the magistrate should say something that would satisfy the inspector that he might legally give them the assistance of the police. He proposed when they found Madame Rachel to take her to the Judges' Chambers. All they required was that the magistrate should say that a constable might be present to prevent any breach of the peace. Mr. Tyrwhitt did not see any objection to give the police the sanction asked for. After leaving the Court Mr. E. Lewis and the inspector proceeded to Maddox-street and found a scene of immense disorder. About one hundred persons from the country who had bought goods and paid a deposit, on coming to claim the delivery of them, found the house barricaded. Determining not to be thus defrauded, as they assumed, one of the party procured a scaffold-pole, and, driving in the window, gained access to the house. This forcible entry enabled the police, after some difficulty, to get possession of the person of Madame Rachel, who was forthwith taken in a cab to Judges' Chambers; but as the applicants were too late they were obliged to release her, intending to make an application the following day.

A GORMANDISING CABMAN.—Captain Campbell, R.N., was summoned at the Lambeth Police Court, on Saturday, by a cabdriver, named Newton, for 6s. due to him as cab-hire. The cabman said that Captain Campbell hired the cab at Leicester-square, and after going to Princess-street he proceeded to Drury-lane and Wych-street; was then driven to Talford-road, Camberwell; and then, accompanied by four children, to St. James's Hall; and, finally, he conveyed them home to Camberwell. The defendant had him out altogether about five hours, including all stoppages; and his claim amounted to 12s. On asking defendant for a settlement, he handed him 6s., and refused to give him any more. In reply to a question by Captain Campbell, the cabman admitted that he had a capital supper at the Captain's house. "Is not," the defendant asked, "a portion of the time you charge that during which you were gormandising with my beef and stout? Didn't my little girl give you four large helps of cold beef, four or five glasses of stout, and a loaf?" Mr. Woolrych said it was lucky he did not eat the little child as well. The complainant said:—"I admit having had as much as I could possibly eat, and defendant asked me to have a pipe with him, but I told him I smoked nothing but cigars. I politely asked for a settling with the Captain and never abused him." Defendant:—"Oh, what a lie, you gormandiser!" Mr. Woolrych:—"Don't call names." Defendant:—"Yes, but he deserves it. I took him for such a nice cabman." Mr. Woolrych said he was of opinion the complainant had made out his claim, and ordered the Captain to pay 6s. and costs.

A RUDE RAILWAY OFFICIAL.—At Bow-street on Monday, William Gregory, a brakeman in the service of the Metropolitan Railway Company, appeared to answer a summons charging him with an assault on a passenger, Mr. Sufell, residing at South Kensington. The prosecutor went by railway from South Kensington to Westminster Bridge. He paid the full fare at South Kensington, but the clerk gave him a ticket for St. James's Park only, saying that he had no Westminster tickets left, and that "they knew that at Westminster, or ought to know it." The prosecutor stated this to the defendant, who was acting as ticket-collector, but he refused to accept the explanation, and declared, with an oath, that Mr. Sufell should not leave the station without paying; and, on his attempting to do so, shoved him back with some violence. The defendant acknowledged that he was wrong, and apologised. Mr. Sufell was willing to accept the apology, but Mr. Flowers thought it came too late. Had it been made earlier, he might have excused the defendant, but now he must impose a penalty. He should, however, mitigate it to 10s., with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.

THIEVING MADE EASY.—At Marylebone, on Monday, John Cox, aged fifteen, was charged with stealing about 12 ft. of brass beading from a cab in Warner's-yard, Kentish Town, the property of Frederick Rayment, cab proprietor. The prosecutor said last Wednesday he was having a cab repaired, and in the evening he left the brass beading in the boot of the cab, leaving the latter in the stable. On the following morning he found the stable had been entered and the beading stolen. He went to a marine-store dealer's shop kept by a man named Stone, whose son said his father had bought some beading, for which he had given 19d. a pound. The father, on being fetched, at first denied having bought the property. Police-constable Rumbold, 24 Y Reserve, said he went to the shop kept by Stone, who admitted that he had bought the beading, weighing 2 lb., for 3d. He also said he had sold it as soon as he bought it to another marine-store dealer named Travel. The witness went to the shop kept by Travel, who told him he had sold it again as soon as he bought it for the purpose of melting. Travel showed him his book, and in it was an entry, "Stuff bought from Stone for 19s." The value of the beading

was 10s. or 11s. He gave, in short, 3d. for that which was worth 11s. Stone was called, and admitted that he bought the beading for 3d. from the prisoner, who said he found it in the dust. He had known him and his parents for a long time. Mr. D'Eyncourt said that was a reason why he should not have bought it. Stone's book was produced, containing the following entry, "Cox, 21b. lead." There was no entry showing that it had been sold again. Mr. D'Eyncourt said that two offences had been committed by Stone under the Act of Parliament—one of not keeping the property forty-eight hours, and the other of not stating the purchaser's name. The prisoner would be remanded for a week, and summonses for the offences would be issued against Stone.

THE POWERS OF THE POLICE.—Two points of general interest were mooted at Clerkenwell and Marlborough-street Police Courts on Monday. At the former a lad was charged with having fought with boxing-gloves in a sandpit near Highbury-new-park on Sunday morning. The spectacle was witnessed by a number of persons, but, as the place where the fight was going on was private property, the magistrate held that he had no power to prevent it. At Marlborough-street a gentleman complained of a failure of duty on the part of a policeman. A man was soundly beating his wife, who sent forth a succession of the most piercing shrieks. The constable heard the screams, but maintained that he could not interfere until he heard the cry of "Murder!" The magistrate held this to be a mistake, but without defining the precise point at which the authority of the police should be exercised.

AN UGLY EMBEZZLEMENT CASE.—At Lambeth, on Wednesday, Richard Henry Cumming, a young man, was charged before Mr. Elliott with forgery. Mr. Seale, sculptor, East-street, Walworth, stated that the prisoner was his clerk, at 30s. a week. He was sent on Saturday week to a builder for £14 14s. 5d., and on his return he said the money was to be transmitted in the course of the week by post. The prosecutor afterwards went to the builder himself, and was shown a receipt in the prisoner's handwriting for the money, and told that it had been paid by cheque. He gave the prisoner into custody. Sergeant Detective Ham deposed that he took the prisoner into custody on the charge of forging Mr. Seale's name to the cheque for £14 14s. 5d. The prosecutor asked the prisoner how many accounts he had received, and he answered "Find out." At the station the prisoner was searched, and there was found on him £10 in gold, besides some silver; he had a diamond ring and a watch and chain. He also found some pawnbroker's tickets, and at his lodgings, in Gunney-street, Walworth, some papers relating to the prosecutor's business. It was proved that the cheque in question by Messrs. Brown and Robinson on their bankers had been paid. In the second case, the prosecutor said he did some work for Messrs. Smith and Co., and that the prisoner had never accounted for a sum of £50 received by him from them. Evidence was given that the prisoner was paid a cheque by Messrs. Smith on Claude Scott, the bankers, and a receipt given. On another occasion the prisoner was given a cheque by them for £100, and prisoner gave a receipt for the money. The prosecutor said the indorsements on the cheques were not in his handwriting. The prisoner paid him £70, and told him he had managed to squeeze it out of them. The receipt to Messrs. Smith produced was in the prisoner's handwriting, and the prosecutor said the £70 handed over by the prisoner to him had been paid into his bankers. In the next case it appeared that Mr. Seale had a customer named Cook, who in February last owed him £70s. 2d., and he had not received a Post-Office order from Berkhamstead for the money. On seeing the letter produced by Sergeant Ham he wrote to Mr. Cook, and he sent him the receipt for the money signed by the prisoner. The signature to the Post-Office order was not written by him. It was proved that the Post-Office order had been paid to the prisoner. Mr. Elliott committed the prisoner for trial at the Kingston Assizes on the several cases of forgery, &c.

A SPECIMEN OF IRISH PRISONS.

A REMARKABLE conflict of testimony between two public officials in reference to the condition of the Tralee Gaol was strongly advertised upon by Mr. Justice Keogh when opening the Commission last Saturday evening. His Lordship observed that he had received a report from the local inspector, made on oath, and at the same time a report from the Hon. Charles Bourke, one of the Inspectors-General of Prisons recently appointed, and who certainly was a most competent officer, who gave the greatest satisfaction, and appeared to take the greatest pains in the discharge of his duty. He declared that a more fearful report he had never read. There were only thirty-six persons in the gaol. There were twenty-two officials, some of them very well paid. The local inspector had £180 a year, while the governor had only £200. It was stated among other matters in the report that in December last the Inspector-General found a lunatic prisoner, who had been convicted of manslaughter, in a cold cell, with loose nails in the walls, against which he might have injured himself. The floor was wet; and the prisoner appeared to be ill, cold, naked, and refused his diet. The interior of the prison was in an unsatisfactory state. There were no bells in the cells. The prisoners were locked up from half-past four in the evening until seven the next morning, in winter, and it afflicted with disease were left to perish. The cells were cold, and the solitary ones damp, also open to the wind and weather, as the windows were not closed. They were quite unfit for human beings. A prisoner died not long ago, in hospital, from a disease contracted in one of the cells. The yards were in bad repair, and the wards on the ground floor in a bad and dirty condition. A prisoner who had been attacked with low fever disappeared before Mr. Bourke's visit. His Lordship pointed out the consequences likely to arise from the filthy state of the prison, generating fever. The governor, deputy-governor, with four in family, and the matrons, all resided in the prison. The place which ought to be a green was used for poultry and pigs. That was contrary to the Act of Parliament, and he found in the report of the local inspector—the

Ven. Archdeacon Denny—which was verified on oath, that the 10th rule was kept, which required that there should be no poultry or cattle of any kind within the prison. He had visited the place himself, and saw all the appliances of a small farm there, and he wondered how the local inspector could report on oath that the rule was complied with. His Lordship minutely described the disgraceful condition in which he found the gaol. He mentioned, among other matters which came under his notice, that he found two debtor prisoners in one room, who had to sleep on one miserable old-fashioned "settle." He censured the governor and the board of superintendence, who were most respectable gentlemen, but neglected their duties; and observed that Mr. Thomas Galloway, whose brother was governor of the gaol, ought not to be on the board. He thought the prisoners must be the stupidest fellows in the world not to have escaped.

THE DOCTOR AND HIS FEES.

SANGER V. SANGER.—EX PARTE DR. JAMES CLARK.

A CASE was tried before the Master of the Rolls on Monday which is of interest both to the public and to the medical profession. This was a claim adjudged from chambers of a medical man upon an estate in course of administration in the above suit in respect of attendance upon two wards of Court, who were plaintiffs in the cause. The case was of some interest, involving as it did the question upon what scale medical men who practise as general practitioners and dispense their own medicines are entitled to charge for their professional services. In 1865 the plaintiffs, who are two young ladies, then aged seventeen and ten respectively, were at school at St. John's-wood, and Dr. James Clark, of 3, St. Mark's-square, Regent's-park, M.D. of Edinburgh, but practising as a general practitioner, and dispensing his own medicines, was called in to attend them professionally, the elder for some trifling complaint, the younger for measles and other ailments which endangered her life for a time, and required his continuous care and attention for many weeks. Dr. Clark paid in all 125 visits, and went twice to Worthing and thrice to Brighton to attend his younger patient when removed thither for change of air, besides meeting Sir William Jenner thrice in consultation. His bill against the elder patient was £20 9s. 6d., being at the rate of one guinea per visit, or half a guinea when he saw her sister also. His bill against the younger patient was £28 10s., being at the rate of a guinea per visit, beside the following items. Thirty guineas for each visit to Worthing, 25s. for every visit to Brighton, 6s. paid to Sir William Jenner for the consultations, and a final item of 40s. for correspondence and sundry consultations and interviews with solicitors and other parties interested in the cause. The guardians resisted Dr. Clark's claim, which amounted to £310 5s. 6d., and offered 100s., which Dr. Clark refused to accept, and carried his claim before the chief clerk, who awarded him £82 13s., being 7s. 6d. for every visit, or £16 17s. 6d.; 10s. for each visit to Worthing; and 6s. paid to Sir William Jenner for the consultations, with some other items, and disallowing the visits to Brighton and the final item of 40s. altogether. The claim was thereupon adjourned into court by Dr. Clark. It was submitted, on his behalf, that the charge of a guinea per visit was reasonable, considering the care and skill applied, the dangerous nature of the disorder, and the means of the patients. Affidavits were read of Sir William Fergusson, Dr. Russell Reynolds, and other eminent members of the profession, to show that half a guinea per mile, the rate at which the visits to the seaside were charged, was a usual and reasonable charge, and that he was justified in paying those visits under the general authority to attend the patients. On the other hand the guardians, admitting that all the visits had been paid, and acknowledging the skill of Dr. Clark and the value of his services, insisted that the charge per visit was too high, and that the visits to the seaside were not specially authorised, and repudiated the final item entirely.

Mr. Jessel, Q.C., and Mr. F. H. Colt, in support of the claim, acknowledged that the charges were large, but submitted that a general practitioner was not to be governed by any fixed scale of charges in making out his bill, which must depend on the circumstances of the patient and the care and attention required; and that in the present case the charges were justified by the unusual amount of attention required and given, and that, at any rate, Dr. Clark was entitled to more than the chief clerk had allowed, and was the proper judge, under the general authority given him, as to whether the visits to Brighton and Worthing were or were not necessary.

Mr. Jessel, Q.C., and Mr. Colt having been heard, His Lordship asked whether the other side would repeat their offer of 100s. This being acceded to,

His Lordship said—I think that this sum is even more than Dr. Clark is entitled to, and I must dismiss his summons, with costs from the time when he rejected the guardians' offer of 100s. I think it right to add that if the case had not ended as it has I should have disallowed the visits to the seaside altogether, as well as the concluding item, and have materially reduced the allowance for visits.

Sir R. Baggallay, Q.C., and Mr. John Chester, were for the guardians; Mr. Southgate, Q.C., and Mr. W. W. Cooper for the infant plaintiffs.

A GALLANT FELLOW.—At the assize held at Stafford last Saturday a young married woman of Tunstall, named Fanny Mills, whose husband is a collier, was arraigned, with a child in her arms, on the charge that she had attempted to murder it. The facts were that on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 30 last, prisoner went to a neighbor's house, of whom she asked a drink of beer, which she got and drank, saying that "it would be the last that she should have given to her." Carrying the child in her arms, and leading another by the hand, she went to a large pool of deep water, where two boys were at play. On the margin of the pool she sat and sewed, and then sent one of the boys back to her neighbour with a parcel containing some of the child's clothing. Presently mother and children were seen struggling together in the water. An alarm was raised, and a young collier—a well-built fellow named Clay—ran to

the water, and, leaping in, swam to the mother and child, caught hold of each, and attempted to bring them together to shore; but they all three sunk, and he had to leave the mother whilst he saved the child. Whilst returning and swimming for the mother he saw, for the first time, the second and older child coming up to the surface. This child, too, he took to shore, and a third time plunged in. The woman he now got out, but with immense difficulty, for he was extremely exhausted; and the mother and the children were so nearly lifeless that they were discoloured, and the woman remained ten days in the care of a surgeon.

The Judge, addressing Clay, who was well dressed, said—All I can say is, I regret it is not in my power to reward you. I don't know if you are in a condition to require it. If you are I should be very, very sorry to find that nothing can be done to reward you.

The witness said he should like some recognition of what he had done, for he nearly lost his own life, and there were plenty of other men on the bank who did nothing for the drowning people.

The Judge said that, as the witness desired some recognition, he would take care that something was done. But, whether he desired a reward or not, he behaved with great bravery. You behaved very nobly (continued Mr. Justice Hannen). I am very pleased to have met you. It is no slight matter for a man to leap into water so deep as to make it necessary he should swim and save three people. The risk he ran is conclusively shown by the state of exhaustion in which he was the last time he was swimming to land. The service he performed was undoubtedly the saving of three lives.

The prisoner was undefended; and the Judge, advocating her cause in the summing up, urged the jury to consider whether, if she and the children had been drowned, and the same panel had to sit upon the case as a coroner's jury, they should not have returned a verdict of temporary insanity? For, although she was well now, yet the surgeon had deposed that, during the ten days after the offence, she was in a state of mental depression, brought about, in all probability, by the treatment of her husband, of which she had complained, and who was given to drink.

The jury "Acquitted" the prisoner on the hypothesis of the Judge.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12.

BANKRUPTS.—T. D. SARGENT, Langham-street, Portland-place.—J. F. BAKER, Kilburn, builder.—W. H. FACEY, Kingston, carman.—J. KEANE, St. Martin's-le-Grand, driller.—H. M. SMITH, Ryder-street, St. James's.—J. CULLEY, Slough, builder.—M. A. TIMPSON, City-road.—R. R. DUKE, Berners-street, Oxford-street, private hotel proprietor.—C. CHAPMAN, Hackney, master mariner.—J. GREENWAY, Linslade, stone-mason.—J. W. BOW, W. H. SHERWOOD, St. John's-road, nursery.—C. WINTER, Victoria Park-road.—T. RICHARDS, son, Camberwell, brushmaker.—M. FANNELL, Holborn-hill, folding-screen maker.—W. F. FISHER, Stamford, commercial traveller.—J. H. BAKER, Lambeth, compositor.—J. E. TANKER, Cowley, builder.—H. NATHAN, Aldgate, tobacconist.—W. HOW, jun., West Malling, licensed victualler.—J. J. SALTmarsh, High Holborn, licensed victualler.—H. DE B. T. RICHARDSON, Leiston, physician.—R. S. RIFLEY, Philico.—J. J. ELY, Battersea, beer-house-keeper.—F. T. JONES, New-cross-road, builder.—F. KERSHNER, West Smithfield, licensed victualler.—J. BARKER and F. G. DEWING, Great Tower-street, wine merchants.—F. E. STAINFORTH, Bloomsbury-square.—S. FOULCRASS, Cranbourne-street, Leicester-square, tailor.—T. CLARK, Chiswell-hatch, farmer.—J. TOWNSEND, Battersea, fat collector.—W. G. DAVY, Oxford, dealer in snuff and tobacco.—S. SEYMOUR, Speldhurst, wheelwright.—G. HODGKINSON, King's Lynn, painter.—H. WOODWARD, Stepney, lighterman.—H. BULLEN, Paddington, cheesemonger.—B. BARWELL, Peckham, oil and colour man.—C. RUGGLE, Notting-hill, baker.—C. W. MULLINS, Rushmore, G. T. M. TUNSTALL, surgeon.—M. H. and H. H. GLEWIS, Bilton, grocers.—M. OTTY, Smithwick, retail brewer.—W. ALDER, Birmingham, grocer.—G. EVANS, Oswestry, brewer.—J. G. WORT, Birmingham, lamp manufacturer.—T. BOWLES, Leamington, licensed victualler.—H. HUBBARD, Leicester, dyer.—S. KINGMAN, Grays, farmer.—F. NETTLETON, Plymouth, beer merchant.—J. V. THORNTON and C. ABERCROMBIE, Brighouse, worsted-spinners.—J. W. DALY and G. O. CHAPMAN, Bradford, worsted spinners.—DOORHOUSE, Wakefield, yarn-spinner.—J. HARRIS, Liverpool, builder.—J. D. HUGHES, Wallasey.—S. DUNN, Liverpool, grocer.—W. JOHNSTON, Ashton-under-Lyne, commission agent.—F. PARKINSON, Chorlton, licensed victualler.—R. HARRISON, Leamington, merchant.—H. GROSS, Sunderland, shipowner.—T. FARISH, Waterloo, grocer.—T. JARMAN, Bury St. Edmunds, innkeeper.—J. W. CRAWFORD, Lincoln, grocer.—R. BUDD, Lower Huddington, butcher.—T. LONGBOTTOM, Delph, licensed victualler.—J. FLETCHER, Lestock, Grahams, W. J. KIRBY, Newark-upon-Trent, confectioner.—W. RADFORD, Sheepshaf, farmer.—S. J. ROGERS, Southampton, fish salesman.—A. O. W. DUBIDGE, licensed gamekeeper.—K. BURLY, Lower Houghton, Indian rubber dealer.—J. MARTIN, Burton-on-Trent, hairdresser.—J. ALLEN, Gressbrough, groom.—I. WALTON, Nelson, power-loom weaver.—S. LITTLEWOOD, Ekeington, cycle-grinder.—J. T. OSBORN, Chesterfield, dyer.—E. H. HILL, coach-builder.—H. CHAMBERLAIN, Burton, carpenter.—T. JONES, Liverpool, general dealer.—E. CUMMINS, Liverpool, grocer.—J. BOOTHMAN, Liverpool.—A. MERRICK, Wolverhampton.—J. HALE, Wolverhampton.—G. FAY, Bristol, carrier by water.—T. SMITH, Salford, carrier.—G. H. TENNANT, Tottenham, schoolmaster.—R. ANDERSON, Notting-hill, carpenter.—S. JONES, Narberth, saddler.—E. WILLIAMS, Merthyr Tydfil, watchmaker.—T. JONES, Merthyr Tydfil, beer-house-keeper.—R. W. BROADBENT, Leamington, hawthorn.—W. BROADBENT, Leeds, grocer.—J. EASTWOOD, Leeds, hairdresser.—W. EVANS, Aberdare, greengrocer.—W. MARRALL, Hunslett joiner.—G. E. GREAVES, Leeds, tailor.—J. TOUTH, Narberth, licensed victualler.—H. L. DOWLING, wire drawer.—F. KAY, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, farmer.—W. P. PAUTER, Wollaton, butcher.—F. WALKLEY, Burslem, brewer.—J. SANDERSON, Penrith, innkeeper.—S. THOMAS, Revolver, shoemaker.—G. ENGLISH, Stokesley, innkeeper.—H. BUCKTON, Lazonby, butcher.—W. MACFARLANE, Tonbridge Wells.—C. COLOONE, Brighton, dairyman.—F. APPS, Hastings, butcher.—W. STURGIS, jun., Brighton, tailor.—F. F. FITALL, Ramsgate, shipwright.—J. FREEMAN, Cambridge, stonemason.

TUESDAY, March 14.

BANKRUPTS.—L. GODFREY, Coleman-street, general merchant.—A. REES, Peckham, stationer.—A. DAVIS, Caledonian-road, cab proprietor.—T. AKERHURST, Oxford, licensed victualler.—A. BARNETT, Baywater, commission agent.—A. HORNIBROOK, Westminster, confectioner.—G. WHEELER, Woolwich, porkbutcher.—A. A. SURLIN, Fie-treux, card manufacturers.—R. L. MALDEN, Ealing.—H. B. HAMERSLEY, Gray's-inn-road, C. H. M. CLARKE, Sheppards's Bush, accountant.—J. MARSHALL, Holloway.—M. BELLINGHAM, St. Clement Danes, victualler.—H. G. E. BRADLEY, builder.—E. B. SMITH, Jewin-street, City.—R. LAY, Borough-road, shopman.—W. RICH, New Brentford, p. water.—H. A. POLLARD, Grayesend, coal merchant.—E. J. CHANDLER, Stepney, engineer.—J. B. JONES, Blackwall, tile owner.—J. S. BAWLING, Clapham, draper.—W. D. PARKINSON, Shadwell, waterman.—S. RANWELL, Plumstead, coal master.—J. GILLINGHAM, Axminster, railway station master.—S. CARPENTER, Stoke Newington.—W. FERN, Camden Town, wood engraver.—E. HARRIS, Stratford, hatter.—J. JENNINGS, St. John's-wood, butcher.—G. BLIZARD and G. E. BLIZARD, Chancery-lane.—E. HOLLAND, Notting-hill.—J. W. THURSTON, Waiworth-road, baker.—J. FINLAYSON, Finsbury, photographer.—J. TURPIN, Chigwell, baker.—D. F. J. A. LESH, Kentish Town, piano-forte-string maker.—J. BUTLAND, Upper Fiddington, builder.—J. A. ELSTON, Pimlico, H. LANE, Norwood.—H. DEAKES, Fentonville, hairdresser.—J. BEARD, Borough, confectioner.—J. H. ROY, Wolverhampton, retailer of ale.—L. SALTER, Aylesbury, farmer.—F. WATKINS, jun., Abergavenny, licensed victualler.—H. E. BROOKES, Hempstead, butcher.—J. JONES, Merthyr, draper.—E. FINCH, Hopton, engineer.—J. HALL, Ripon, lineburrer.—W. BELL, Huddersfield, spinner.—R. WILKS, Southold, razor manufacturer.—C. WARD, Marton, labourer.—T. JONES, Liverpool, auctioneer.—H. JACKSON, Tyldesley, salt merchant.—J. PATTERSON, Liverpool, livery-stable keeper.—W. BIRCH, Sheffield, spring-knife maker.—J. B. SMITH, Halifax, watchmaker.—J. B. SMITH, Ross, hairdresser.—W. RUST, King's Lynn, licensed victualler.—J. P. WILLIAMS, Llanover Upper, beer-house-keeper.—B. WATKIN, Walspool, miller.—T. EVANS, Bangor, watchmaker.—A. BERT, Great Bolton, engineer.—J. CLEVELLEY, Chichester, smith.—H. CARRALL, Kingston-on-Hull, toydealer.—W. BAINBRIDGE, Barton-on-Trent.—H. ROSENTHAL, Birmingham.—G. AMAS, Hastings.—G. PERKINS, Birmingham.—R. M. CARR, Leeds, agent.—J. PEARSON, York, newsagent.—H. ALDRIDGE, St. Albans, butcher.—W. FALMER, sen., Fittion, market gardener.—L. GAY, Fordingbridge, dressmaker.—J. B. THORNTON, jun., Dover.—W. COOPER, Ince-within-Makerfield, collier.—W. B. URWIN, Ayrton, grocer.—W. SUNN, Finchfield, innkeeper.—A. RILEY, Killybeg, wheelwright.—G. THORNTON, Rugby, fishmonger.—G. HARDY, Boston, dealer in brooms.—J. SMITH, Duxley, licensed victualler.—K. W. HOLLOWS, Theltham, author.—J. WILLIAMS, Abertawe, innkeeper.—G. W. BUSHMONGER, Aberystwyth, fishing-bomb owner.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GOOD FRIDAY (next Friday), MARCH 29.
GRAND SACRED ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.
Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mlle. Carols, and Madame Rudersdorf; Signor F. M. L. Thomas, and Mr. Sims Reeves.

Trumpet Obligato, Mr. T. Harper; Festival Organ, Mr. James Coward; Conductor, Mr. A. Mann. Crystal Palace Orchestra, Full Chorus, and Band of Royal Artillery.
Good Friday is a great day at the Crystal Palace. Apart from the pleasure of a visit to this delightful resort of the English public, provided, as it is, with every varying attraction, the Music on Good Friday possesses special interest; it will be seen from the names of the Artists that on this occasion the Concert will be more attractive than ever.

The Old Hundredth Psalm, Evening Hymn, and National Anthem by Full Bands and Organ, joined in Chorus by the Tens of Thousands of Visitors assembled.
Doors open at Nine. Full Band of Royal Artillery (Conductor, Mr. J. Smyth), and Great Organ at intervals from 1.30; Grand Sacred Concert at 3.30, terminating at about 5.30.
Stalls in front of Great Orchestra, 2s. 6d., at Crystal Palace and Krieger Hall. Shilling Reserved Seats at the Palace on Good Friday only.
The Siamese Twins, Circassian Lady, and Nova Scotian Giantess will be on view this day only in Mr. Pulley's Circus.
Railway Arrangements.—Trains as often as required, by London and Brighton Railway, from London Bridge, Victoria, Clapham Junction, Croydon, Kensington; also from Victoria, Ludgate, and Metropolitan to High-Level station.—See Time-tables. For Excursions by Midland, Great Northern, Brighton, London, Chatham, and Dover, and from all North London stations and Harpenden Junction and other lines, also Trains from Euston station, see each Company's announcement. Visitors, however, are particularly recommended to COME EARLY. No advance in joint bookings. Open for Admission from Nine till Nine. Lighted at Dusk.
A sight alone worth a journey to Norwood to see.—Vide Critique.
Admission, One Shilling. Children Half Price. Guinea Season-Tickets free.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—EASTER

HOLIDAYS.—The Attractions provided for Easter this year are greater than ever. They include a Grand Extravaganza, BLUE BEARD, produced by Mr. E. T. Smith; the Vokes Family, Brothers Daniel (Musical Comedians), Majilton, American Gorillas, the Martens, Silvester's Talking Lion, Pulley's Circus, &c. Full Particulars will be announced in a few days.

CHRISTY MINSTRELS, ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—EVERY NIGHT at Eight; Wednesdays and Saturdays Three and Eight, All the Year Round. The Company now permanently increased to Thirty-one Performers, all of known eminence, the largest and best Ethiopian Troupe in the world.—Fountain, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.
The Christy's never perform away from St. James's Hall.
Manager, Mr. FREDERICK BURGESS.

THE NOVA SCOTIA GIANTESS, Miss ANNA SWAN, 8 ft. high, 29 years of age, respectfully announces that she holds licence to crowded and admiring audiences DAILY, at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, from Half-past Two until Half-past Four, and from Half-past Six until Nine. Admission One Shilling.

THE SIAMESE TWINS and the BEAUTIFUL CIRCASSIAN LADY continue to attract crowded audiences at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly. Notwithstanding the great interest they have excited in the Metropolis, they must shortly leave London. Reception DAILY from Half-past Two until Half-past Four, and from Half-past Six until Nine. Admission One Shilling.

HAMILTON'S MODERN INSTRUCTIONS for the PIANO. 6th Edition, 70 large folio pages, 4s. Order of all Musicellers and Booksellers.

PUT IT DOWN TO ME.—The Royal Christy Minstrels, at St. George's Theatre, "Put it down to me," sung by Mr. Hall, commands a hearty encore. "When the Roses Bloom," sung by Mr. Garland, with great applause. 3s. each; post-free, 19 stamps.

B. A. G.—New Comic Song, by the "Composers of 'Put it Down to Me' and 'Medicine Jack.'" Each 3s.; post-free, 19 stamps.

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12 Dessert Spoons	£ 1 0 0	£ 2 0 0	£ 1 0 0	£ 2 0 0
12 Tea Spoons	£ 1 0 0	£ 2 0 0	£ 1 0 0	£ 2 0 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
2 Sauce Ladles	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
1 Gravy Spoon	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
1 Pair of Fish Carvers	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
1 Butter Knife	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
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1 Sugar sifter	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 10 0
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